

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Night must fall... and what goes on when it does? Tomorrow, Modern Times talks, bleary-eyed, to the people who come alive as the rest of the nation goes to sleep.

On the books page: Bryan Appleyard reviews Buckminster Fuller's recipe for world salvation, Richard Holmes finds a new conservative streak in Tom Wolfe and Mary Cosh reports on a "stunning" recreation of the last days of Oscar Wilde.

Strike ends as BSC retreat

Striking steel workers in South Yorkshire were told to go back to work by the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation after the British Steel Corporation backed down on the imposition of redundancies and new shift arrangements.

US owns 50pc of Sotheby's

Sotheby's, the London-based fine art auctioneers at the centre of a \$60m takeover battle, is now believed to be more than 50 per cent owned by American interests.

Reagan appeal

President Reagan asked Morocco to mediate between the PLO and Jordan after they failed to agree on a common approach to Middle East peace, senior Arab diplomats said in Rabat.

Phone box loss

Nearly 17,000 of Britain's 77,000 public telephone boxes will disappear if British Telecom is sold to private investors, Mr Alan Tuffin, general secretary of the Union of Communication Workers, claimed.

Back to Siberia

Six Pentecostals left the American embassy in Moscow, where they have been for nearly five years, to return to Siberia in the hope that the Soviet authorities will let them emigrate.

Gold fraud trial

A key figure allegedly involved in a £2m VAT gold fraud used a false name and "totally vanished", a court was told.

Walesa meeting

Mr Lech Walesa, who held a three-day conference with underground Solidarity leaders to "coordinate the position" of the banned Polish free trade union, according to a communiqué read by his wife.

Banker's call

Agencies like the International Monetary Fund and World Bank should play a bigger role in channelling international capital flows, Sir Jeremy Morse, chairman of Lloyds Bank, said.

Flood alerts

Shipping on the Rhine and Mosel rivers was halted and disaster alerts were declared in the cities of Bonn, Cologne and Trier as flooding spread through south-western Germany.

Rare Master

Severiano Ballesteros adopted a rare conservative approach in winning the Masters golf tournament for the second time at Augusta, Georgia.

Putting your feet up with fish and chips

If fish and chips, bread and butter and a cup of tea is your idea of a good meal, then you can afford to put your feet up.

According to Treasury figures, the average working man now has to work fewer hours to earn fish and chips for his family than he did four years ago.

But the same family would have to eat fish and chips every day of the year to offset the extra hours needed to pay the mortgage, and twice a day to compensate for the rise in the council house rent.

The Treasury calculations show that a married man with two children on average male earnings now has to work nearly 6 1/2 hours a week to pay the rent

of a three bedroomed council house, compared with just over four hours a week in the autumn of 1978.

Families buying their own home have done rather better. It took only three quarters of an hour extra work a week to pay the mortgage in April 1982, than in October, 1978. Since then, payments have come down sharply as the mortgage rate has fallen.

But supporting a mortgage still involves three times more effort than renting from the council. The typical worker has to put in nearly 18 hours a week, nearly half his average working week, for the privilege of home ownership.

Cod and tea require less work to pay for them than four years ago, the Treasury estimates. Half a pound of tea costs 14 pence, 4 minutes less than in 1978, while 2lb of cod fillet is 10 pence cheaper at 1 hour 5 minutes. A large white sliced loaf costs 10 1/2 pence, the same as in 1978.

Families would have done well to cut down on chips last year. Potato prices soared because of the bad winter weather, with 14lb of spuds needing 4 1/2 minutes work, compared with 23 minutes in 1978. But prices have since subsided to more normal levels, making fish and chips the bargain meal.

The good life, however, comes dear these days. Three hours 40 minutes are needed to earn the price of 3lb of steak. A bottle of whisky would be 30 minutes cheaper.

Travelling is enough to drive a man to overtime. He would have to work for three hours 45 minutes to pay for five gallons of four-star petrol, compared with two hours 31 minutes in 1978.

Interest rate set to reach 10pc this week

Expectations of lower interest rates, lower inflation are pushing rates down. Higher productivity and moderate pay increases, rather than a lower pound, are the only lasting answer to Britain's industrial problems, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, told Westminster Chamber of Commerce. United States money supply growth and inflation are likely to be less than expected with bank base rates being cut by a half over the next few months, according to point to 10 per cent. Firmer sterling and Volcker, US Federal Reserve chairman.

By Peter Wilson-Smith and Frances Williams

Bank base rates are virtually certain to fall this week from 10 1/2 to 10 per cent after yesterday's performance in the markets. Share prices hit new records and sterling rose strongly against leading currencies.

The City is convinced that the clearing banks will cut base rates by the end of the week, despite tough action taken by the Bank of England to prevent rates falling too far too fast.

The FT Index of 30 leading shares closed at a record 687.7 yesterday - up 3.8 points on the day. The market has been racing ahead because of the trend towards lower interest rates. At one stage it was up 6.6 points but a big £7.2m share issue from GKN, one of the country's leading engineering companies, took some of the steam out of the rise.

The pound has staged a dramatic recovery as fears of an oil price war have receded. It was in demand again yesterday, adding to the big gains of the previous day.

Hopes of an early election leading to a Conservative victory have also helped and the pound closed up 1.45 cents against the dollar at \$1.5415, the highest closing level for nearly two months.

The pound's value against a basket of currencies was also up 0.4 at 82.0 yesterday, the best since January 21.

The Bank of England has been working hard to keep rates up and has been worried that a hasty cut in base rates could undermine sterling's new-found strength. But there were signs yesterday that the Bank's line may be softening.

It gave no sign that it was ready to endorse lower rates yet but was more generous than in previous days in relieving cash shortages in the money markets, which suggests it may be preparing to allow rates to fall.

A cut in base rates would help to head off the danger of a rise in the mortgage rate which some building societies believe is necessary with bank rates at their present level.

However, once base rates fall by half a percentage point from existing levels of 10 1/2 per cent, the authorities are likely to be reluctant to see any further falls for a while.

It is thought that monetary policy could be thrown off course if interest rates fall rapidly and there is also concern that sterling could come under pressure again in the future despite its recent firmness.

One factor which could upset sterling is rising American interest rates. Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the US Federal Reserve, the country's central bank, warned Congress yesterday that interest rates were too high to sustain a long-term recovery.

In London, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor, hammered home to a gathering of businessmen his message that the easy option of a depreciating currency was not the route to lasting improvements in industrial competitiveness.

He said faster economic growth depended on improving competitiveness through lower pay deals, productivity gains, or better product quality and performance, which did not raise the cost of imports or inflation.

Business News, page 13

Cousin of Aitken is TV-am chief

By Kenneth Gosling

Mr Jonathan Aitken, MP, who replaced Mr Peter Jay as chief executive of TV-am, the breakfast television station, a month ago this week, hands over the post to his cousin, Mr Timothy Aitken, from tomorrow.

The appointment will last, according to TV-am, for at least a year, as will the appointment of Mr Roger Frye to the new post of financial director. Both have been approved by the Independent Broadcasting Authority.

During their tenure of office with TV-am, Mr Timothy Aitken and Mr Frye will relinquish their positions with Aitken Hume, the financial services company and the major institutional shareholder in TV-am. Mr Timothy Aitken is that company's chief executive and his cousin Jonathan is chairman. Mr Frye is the financial controller.

The announcement was made on the day the latest breakfast television ratings were announced by the Broadcasters' Audience Research Board (BARB). These showed no further drop in the TV-am audience from 400,000. But the Saturday figure is down from 1,600,000 to 1,100,000, with Sunday creeping up from 300,000 to 500,000.

BBC television Breakfast Time show showed a fall in its average weekday viewing figure from 1,800,000 to 1,300,000.

TV-am's statement on the executive changes was given to the station's staff yesterday afternoon. Mr Jonathan Aitken, whose appointment, though temporary, was controversial, will remain an executive director. His cousin Timothy, aged 38, a grandson of Lord Beaverbrook, and Mr Frye join the TV-am board.

Mr Jay, who had been chairman as well as chief executive of TV-am, and is now president had no comment; but the man who took over as chairman, Lord Marsh, said, "I am absolutely delighted with these appointments and grateful to Timothy Aitken for taking what was for him a difficult decision."

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NCB's £115m loss threatens pits

By Paul Routledge, Labour Editor

The National Coal Board lost £115m last year and faces a further substantial drop in UK consumption that is likely to accelerate pit closures.

Leaders of the three mining unions were given a gloomy forecast of the industry's fortunes yesterday at the first top-level consultative meeting attended by Mr Arthur Scargill, left-wing president of the National Union of Mineworkers, since he took office more than a year ago.

Mr Scargill said afterwards: "Whenever the coal board make a statement or present statistics they confirm the view that I have expressed and the union has expressed that the coal board will seek further pit closures at a more rapid rate than hitherto. Only eight pits, closed in the last financial year, and two were merged."

The inescapable conclusion of these figures is that the coal board will seek further pit closures at a more rapid rate than hitherto. Only eight pits, closed in the last financial year, and two were merged.

Ironically, the miners are working harder while the market for their product shrinks. In the last quarter of the financial year productivity was up by 4 to 5 per cent.

The management is scaling down its overall sales prospects for 1983-84 to 116 million tonnes, of which 104 million tonnes would come from deep-mined sources and the rest from opencast sites.

Of that figure, 10m is being attributed to disputes in the industry, including sympathy strikes in support of the health workers last summer, an abortive overtime ban last autumn

and the recent strike in South Wales over the closure of Ty Mawr-Lewis Merthyr colliery.

Consumption of coal by industry, the electricity generating authorities and households fell last year to 110 million tonnes, the lowest since 1967, and the continuing recession points to a four million tonne reduction in that figure during 1983-84.

At the same time output from new mines, including the Selby colliery, will practically double to about three million tonnes, and other new capacity at existing pits will come on stream.

Not content with the "cream" awards, Gandhi also collected Oscars for costume, art direction, cinematography, editing and screenwriting.

It completely overran all opposition including the American box office sensation, *E.T.*, which has so far taken \$30m at the box office. Steven Spielberg's fable about the endearing creature from outer space won four Oscars, all in the technical category.

As expected, Meryl Streep won best actress award for her role as the beautiful concentration camp victim in the screen version of William Styron's best-selling novel *Sophie's Choice*.

It was a triumphant evening. Continued on back page, col 3

Chairman of British Airways, who arranged free flights to the south Atlantic for the Falkland's bereaved, to give his support.

The Government stands by the arrangements introduced in 1967 which allow - though not retrospectively - next-of-kin and a companion to travel free to visit the grave of a serviceman buried overseas within two years of the burial. It was under this arrangement that the Falklands visit went ahead.

After the Second World War some financial assistance was given to relatives to visit cemeteries in Europe.

Baroness Jeger tabled a question in the House of Lords asking the Government to reconsider its refusal to help widows who have never been able to pay their last respects.

British War Widows and Associates, the organization which has been campaigning for free travel for next-of-kin, is also to ask Sir John King,

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Climax of a magnificent obsession



Success at last: Sir Richard Attenborough and Ben Kingsley with their awards last night.

Eight-Oscar 'Gandhi' triumphs in Hollywood

From Iver Davis, Hollywood

Sir Richard Attenborough's 20-year magnificent obsession, his film *Gandhi*, last night monopolized the 55th Academy Awards ceremony in Hollywood by winning eight Oscars - more than any other British film in Academy history.

Gandhi won the plum awards for best picture, best director and best actor (Ben Kingsley).

A jubilant Sir Richard, who had already pocketed most of the other main film awards in the last few months, said that *Gandhi*'s victory was a triumph for the once-all-British film industry "and will show the world that the success of *Chariots of Fire* last year was simply not another flash in the pan".

He said: "No British film in history has ever won this number of Oscars - not *Lawrence of Arabia*, not *Bridges on the River Kwai* nor *Oliver!*"

Surrounded by a tableful of gold statuettes, Sir Richard said wryly: "Nobody believed in the story of a little brown man dressed in a sheet carrying a bean pole."

Indeed, as has already been much chronicled, Sir Richard fought for two decades for the privilege of bringing the life story of Mahatma Gandhi to the screen even though financial doors were slammed in his face. He finally got his funds from British, Indian and Canadian sources.

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Spain gets tougher on Rock visit

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Señor Fernando Morán, the Spanish Foreign Minister, yesterday told the British Ambassador of his "concern and dismay" over today's scheduled visit by ships of the Royal Navy to Gibraltar.

It was the second time Sir Richard Parsons, the Ambassador, had heard the contents of an official Spanish Note made public on Monday night. He had already visited the Foreign Ministry on Saturday, when it was read to him by a senior official. The Foreign Ministry's chief spokesman had made a mistake reporting on Spanish television on Monday night that the envoy had been summoned earlier in the day.

Sir Richard was understood to have emphasized the routine nature of the call by a fleet of 12 ships, headed by the aircraft carrier *Invincible*. Similar visits had occurred in previous years when ships were returning from spring exercises in the eastern Atlantic.

The Ministry of Defence spokesman said that Spring Train was very much a deep-water naval exercise, not one designed to test Gibraltar defences. This had always been the case, he added.

No landings or exercises on the Rock were taking place or had even been planned. The ministry had been in contact with troops stationed in Gibraltar to check that not even a local operation had been designed to coincide with Spring Train.

One possible reason for this year's display of Spanish umbrage is that the Madrid Government had been looking for a good excuse to delay implementation of the Lisbon Agreement, under which the frontier between Gibraltar and Spain would be fully reopened and normal relations restored.

General Leopoldo Galtieri, the former Argentine President, faces 60 days' detention in a military prison, and will stand trial before an Army court of honour which could bring further charges against him. Military sources have disclosed.

The decision was taken late on Monday night by General Cristino Nicolaides, the Army commander. Under Army regulations retired officers must seek the permission of the commander before making any political statements.

General Galtieri had broken this rule in an interview published by the newspaper *Clarín* on April 2. General Nicolaides imposed the maximum sentence possible for this breach of discipline.

In the interview, General Galtieri criticized General Marion Menéndez, the former military governor of the Falkland Islands. He also attacked three senior active service generals who, he said, led the coup against him in June last year. He claimed they acted in a dishonourable fashion.

The three are General Lisamil Reston (Interior Minister), General Edgardo Carvi (Chief of the Army General Staff) and General Horacio Varela Ortiz (Director of Fabricaciones Militares, the Army's military-industrial complex).

Statements made by the former President in the interview also offended other senior officers, the Catholic church and Señor Carlos Ortiz de Rosas, the former Argentine Ambassador to Britain.

At least four officers demanded a court of honour to question General Galtieri's Continued on back page, col 1

Tory MP fights to block rival

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Sir Anthony Meyer, Conservative MP for Flint, West, who is in conflict with a member of the European Parliament, Miss Beata Brookes, for the new seat of Clwyd North-west, yesterday accused party officers of using procedural delays to protect his rival.

Sir Anthony, whose present seat will disappear under boundary changes, was beaten by Miss Brookes, MEP for North Wales, at the initial selection conference for the new seat. But Miss Brookes's selection is subject to endorsement by the full paid-up membership of the new constituency association, which is yet to hold its inaugural meeting.

At that meeting Sir Anthony, who has complained of irregularities in Miss Brookes's nomination, hopes to block her candidature and secure a fresh selection. He has the support of Mr Geraint Morgan, MP for Denbigh, whose seat also disappears and who was also beaten initially by Miss Brookes.

Sir Anthony, who with his wife spent part of the Easter recess campaigning in the new seat, said yesterday that out of 100 party workers he had met only eight who supported Miss Brookes, whom he described as "the only Conservative candidate who could lose the seat to the Liberals".

He said the inaugural meeting of the association was being held "back" because of the prospect of an election in June.

"My opponents hope the meeting will be in the middle of an election campaign, too late to challenge Miss Brookes and

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GOOD GOD, JEREMY, SOME BOUNDER HAS JUST NUKED OUR FOX! Huntin' Shootin' and Bombin' Punch Take a different look at life

Handwritten Arabic text at the bottom of the page.

PARLIAMENT April 12 1983

Minister attacked from both sides over CABs

COMMONS

The Government is to hold an early and independent review of the staff and efficiency of the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux...

the association. To ensure that the money is being effectively used I have proposed, with the full support of the association itself, an early and independent review of its staffing and efficiency.

Mr Peter Archer, chief Opposition spokesman on consumer affairs, (Warley, West, Lab): The House will welcome what he said about his National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux...

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Our support has been shown by the rapid increase in this Government's funding in 1970-80, it was £1.85m; in 1980-81, £4.02m; in 1981-82, £4.91m; £5.75m in 1982-83; and now £6.04m in 1983-84.

After hearing from the association about any outstanding complaints which will be investigated by an impartial investigator or withdrawn all these allegations?

Bill likely on union democracy

EMPLOYMENT

Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, said he intended to publish as soon as possible the Government's conclusions on what legislative steps might need to be taken on trade union democracy.

ensure some adequate measure of democracy in them. Mrs Shirley Williams (Crosby, SDP): In the light of the disturbing indicators about employment prospects in the next decade from the green paper to embrace proposals on industrial democracy and combine with the proposals for which he took from my party a proposal for a vote by shareholders before funds are made to the Conservative Party?

Mr Tebbit: I am not sure to which of her parties she refers - (laughter) - the old one or the new one. (Interjection) The new one she tells me. I can assure her I came to the conclusion these proposals were needed before she swapped parties after she was defeated.

Mr Tebbit: The overwhelming thrust of the responses we have received has been to suggest that legislation is needed to improve practice in the trade unions and



Crouch: Invaluable job

Archer: Vague insinuations

increase in Government funding in recent years. Mr Richard Wainwright (Colne Valley, L): This is mean-minded harassment of people who achieve a high rate of public good for public cost, undreamt of in the Department of Trade...

Mr Robert McClelland (Barnwood and Ongar, C): Many of us are stout supporters of the CAB because of the great work they do for the less well-off people of this country.

Mr Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea North, Lab): Did he or did he not make statements about misuse of funds by Mrs Ruddock which were quoted?

Dr Vaughan: I have never implied there was any misuse of funds. An inquiry was put to me as to how somebody who was thought to be a full-time paid employee of the organization was able to devote so much time to other things...

Mr Frank Adams (Salford, East, Lab): I am the minister read The Sunday Times which this week says that the minister said that there was anxiety in his constituency that Joan Ruddock was using public funds given to the CAB to subsidize a CND activity?

Dr Vaughan: I have never implied there was any misuse of funds. An inquiry was put to me as to how somebody who was thought to be a full-time paid employee of the organization was able to devote so much time to other things...

Little future in protecting yesterday's jobs

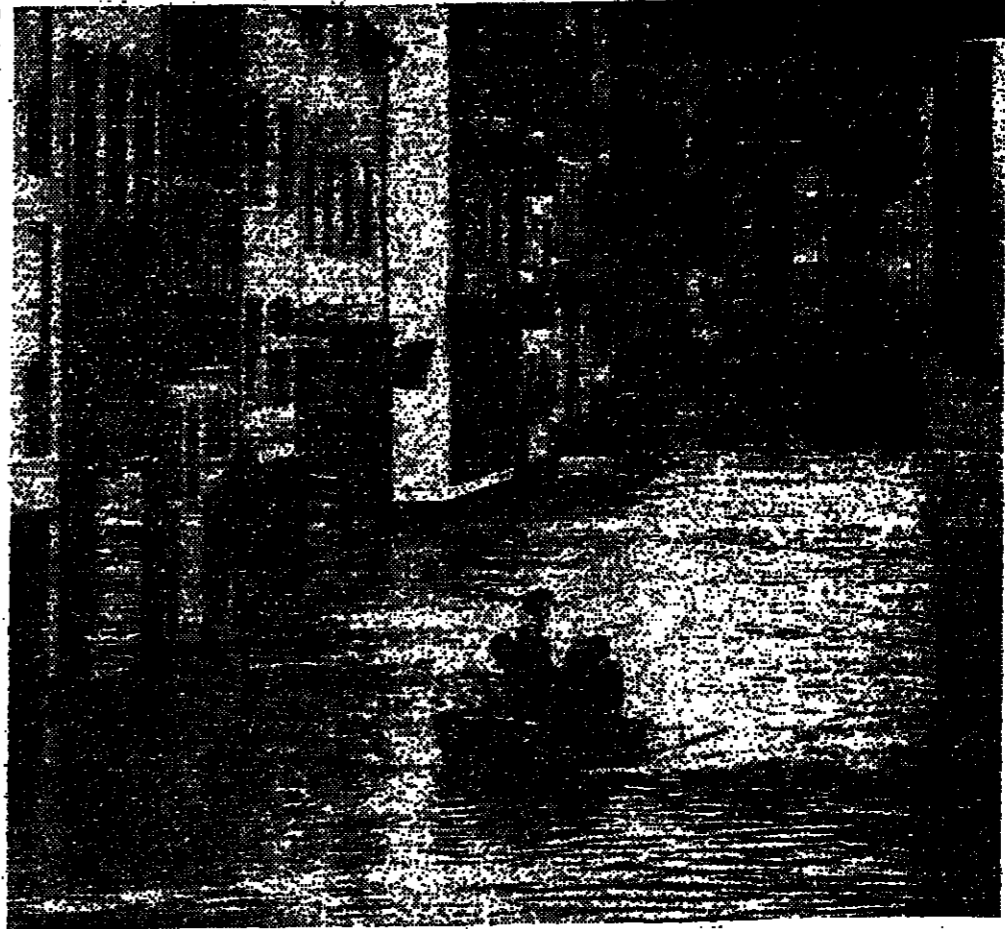
THE ECONOMY

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, was challenged during questions in Commons about the possible suppression of a report to the meeting of the National Economic Development Council on Monday stating that there would be no growth in employment this decade.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition (Edwin, York, Lab): I am sure that the Government will be able to find a way to ensure that the report should be suppressed?

Mr Roy Jenkins, Leader of the SDP (Glasgow, Hillhead, SDP): Will the Prime Minister tell us why Mr Geoffrey Chandler, Director General of the National Economic Development Office, was given such a rough time at Node? Is he to be made the scapegoat of the Government's next election?

Mr John Fraser, for the Opposition (Lambeth, Norwood): This unhappy episode has the fingerprints of the Prime Minister all over it. Does he recognize the degree to which the situation in his statement is likely to undermine the support of CABs at local level?



Emergency on the Mosel

Firemen take supplies by boat to people marooned by floods in the West German city of Zell. The floods, after several days of heavy rain, came as the Mosel overflowed its banks.

as the river rose to its highest level since 1970. Shipping was also halted on the Mosel and several smaller rivers in the south-west. The Rhine was almost 19ft above its normal level in Bonn and officials said the water was still rising as torrential rain continued to fall.

Mr John Deans (Eslington, Lab): What is the essential difference between the upturn on the economy that is being forecast by the Government and the three previous similar forecasts that did not materialize?

When we had the first upturn here towards the end of 1981-82 they were at the same time going through the worst of the recession in Germany. There are signs of a similar upturn in the United States, here and in Germany. We believe they are not merely recovering from the downturn on stocks.

Cambodia 'massacre' inquiry call

From Neil Kelly Bangkok

The anti-Vietnamese coalition Government of Cambodia has called on the United Nations Secretary-General to send a commission of inquiry to investigate allegations that Vietnamese troops massacred hundreds of civilians in western Cambodia on April 4.

Mr Son Sann, the Prime Minister in the coalition, said yesterday before leaving Bangkok for Paris that United Nations experts should also inquire into the disappearance of thousands of civilians from the area where the alleged massacre took place.

The overwhelming majority of British people supported the police when they were dealing with people who were armed, Mrs Thatcher the Prime Minister, said during a question on the policing of London.

Thatcher backs armed police

Mr Anthony Grant (Harrow, Central, C): The police are held in much higher esteem than some left-wing cranks would have us believe. If in certain circumstances they should consider it necessary to use force to prevent crime, they will have the whole-hearted backing of the Government in so doing.

European cities seek nuclear-free zones

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Local authority leaders from five countries agreed in Brussels yesterday to work together to turn Europe into a nuclear-free zone. The five countries are: those in which Nato intends to deploy medium-range missiles from the end of this year if there is no breakthrough in the Geneva arms talks.

The Brussels two-day meeting essentially agreed to spread an idea, born in Manchester, all over the Continent. That idea was successfully put forward by Mr William Rishy in 1981 to declare the city a nuclear-free zone.

Hongkong police fears

Hongkong (Reuters) - One thousand Chinese policemen, worried about their future after 1997 when most of Hongkong is due to revert to China, are seeking British citizenship and the right to live in the United Kingdom, a spokesman for the Police Inspectors' Association said yesterday.

The British Nationality Act gives the British Government power to grant citizenship to aliens and Commonwealth residents on the basis of their service to the Crown. Hongkong citizens born in the Colony are entitled to a Hongkong British passport which does not include the right to live in Britain.

Britain and China are negotiating over Hongkong's future after 1997, when the British lease on most of it expires.

Critic told to talk to Ford strikers

When a labour backbencher complained in the Commons about the high level of unemployment on Merseyside, Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, advised him to talk to the Ford strikers at Halewood.

Mr Tebbit: I have received comments on the proposal from Conservative trade unionists, organizations which represent moderate people in industry that almost anything else, for proposals to opt into the political view rather than opt out?

Mr Tebbit: I have received comments on the proposal from Conservative trade unionists, organizations which represent moderate people in industry that almost anything else, for proposals to opt into the political view rather than opt out?

New assessment system for Scottish children

Mr George Younger, Secretary of State for Scotland, outlined in a statement in the Commons proposed changes in the arrangements for the curriculum and assessment of 14 to 16 year olds in school in Scotland.

Local parties do choosing

Mrs Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said she could not answer for the selection of Conservative parliamentary candidates, when reference was made to a prospective Tory candidate who was not approved because his wife was opposed to fox-hunting.

Mr Thomas Cox (Wandsworth, Tooting, Lab) asked: Is Mrs Thatcher aware that a prospective parliamentary Conservative candidate has not been approved, apparently because his wife has expressed opposition to fox-hunting?

Can she say whether or not she approves of that decision and if so, why? If she does not, will she condemn this deplorable action from a party that is always talking about the personal freedom of the individual?

Mr Anthony Marlow (Northampton, North, C) said it would help to cut unemployment by encouraging the British people, before buying, to think British.

House prices could fall by as much as 80% over the next ten to fifteen years. What appears to be a sound investment now might well become a millstone in the future.

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DAN-AIR ANNOUNCES THE ONLY DAILY SERVICE FROM GATWICK TO ZURICH. LONDON (Gatwick) ZURICH. ZURICH LONDON (Gatwick). STARTING APRIL 30. Now there's a better way to get to Zurich. Fly direct on Dan-Air's new morning service from Gatwick, and you'll find out just how convenient Gatwick is.

Secret three-day conference

Walesa meets underground

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

Mr Lech Walesa, the chairman of the banned Solidarity trade union, has held three days of secret talks with fugitive underground leaders to coordinate their strategies.

KOR dissidents who were Solidarity advisers: the expected protests on May Day and May 3; and the visit to Poland of the Pope in June.

Two symptoms of the discontent that prompted the announcement of the meeting have come in recent days. One is the publication of a long document entitled: "Programme and Organization" by a Solidarity radical who writes under the pseudonym of Maciej Poleski.

Walesa or any private citizen to meet representatives of an illegal organization. However, if they discussed illegal acts, then Mr Walesa would have committed an offence.

Rebels step up Afghan onslaught

Islamabad (Reuters) - Afghan rebels are fighting Soviet and Government troops in three provincial capitals, Western diplomats reported yesterday.

The reports coincided with a frank admission over Kabul radio on Monday night that the war waged by Muslim guerrillas since Soviet troops moved in nearly three and a half years ago had badly damaged Afghanistan's economy.

Sultan Ali Kishman, the Prime Minister, said half of all hospitals and schools had been destroyed, road transport was in disarray, three quarters of communication lines were out of action, urgent repair work was needed on power and water supplies, and large investment was needed in agriculture.

He called for stringent economic measures by all government departments and increased efforts to collect taxes to pay for the country's defence.

Western diplomats were surprised by the Prime Minister's picture of the Afghan economy. The Government had previously portrayed a country successfully going about its business despite attacks by people dismissed as criminals or bandits.

The diplomats said the change in strategy might be an attempt to win international support while United Nations-sponsored peace talks are in progress with Pakistan this week at Geneva.

Some diplomats also felt recent successes by guerrillas, including the cutting of high-voltage power lines and the blacking out of the capital, Kabul, might have left President Babrak Karmal's administration no choice but to admit reverses.

Diplomats who have access to information from Kabul said that in the latest fighting the rebels were virtually in complete control of Afghanistan's main western city of Herat, capital of a province which borders Iran and the Soviet Union.

They said that during the day government forces controlled only small areas around the main administrative buildings while at night the city belonged to the guerrillas.

The situation was similar in Kandahar, capital of a province bordering Pakistan. Normal life no longer existed in Kandahar. One report said more than 70 per cent of the population had fled.

GENEVA: About 60 members of the association of Alghams in Switzerland, some in national costume, demonstrated yesterday outside the Palais des Nations in Geneva, where indirect discussions on the Afghanistan problem are in progress with delegations from Kabul and Islamabad, Alan McGregor writes.

They handed in an open letter to the United Nations Secretary-General saying the essential precondition for any political solution was the immediate, total and unconditional withdrawal of Soviet troops, as requested by the UN general assembly.

Royal couple in another crush

From Granis Forbes, PA Court Correspondent, Brisbane

The Prince and Princess of Wales were mobbed again yesterday when Queensland police lost control of a crowd of 2,500.

The royal couple made an unscheduled stop at a famous beauty spot, Alexandra Headland, as they drove to Maroochy chydore airport on their way to their farmhouse at Woomargama.

Mr Victor Chapman, the Royal couple's press spokesman, said: "As soon as the royal couple stepped out of the car we were swamped by the crowd."

Because the stop was an unscheduled event it was not policed. "There were only the police officers in the motorcade and they just could not cope with the crowds."

Large crowds, which had gathered to see the Prince and Princess when they visited a nut processing plant also engulfed their car as they left to drive away.

The bodyguards became agitated as police seemed unable to control well-wishers, and it took a lot of shouting before a passage could be cleared.

Thorn fear on Britain's EEC refund

From George Clark, Strasbourg

In a speech full of warnings about crises lying ahead for the EEC, Mr Gaston Thorn, president of the European Commission, told the European Parliament yesterday that a refund for Britain to compensate for overpayments on contributions in 1983 could be held up if there was no agreement on the restructuring of Community finances in the long term.

After the March summit meeting in Brussels, it seemed that Mrs Margaret Thatcher had been given a guarantee that, pending the long-term solution, Britain would receive a refund this year.

Mr Thorn told MEPs that the summit had been disappointing. It had produced few tangible results and if there was a repetition at the Stuttgart summit in June the Community would be plunged into a serious crisis. It was essential, he said, that the summit should produce a solution on Community financing, energy policy, enlargement and industrial decline.

Referring to the British budgetary problem Mr Thorn said: "For the Commission it is only in the context of a long-term solution that we can consider the immediate and short-term problems." The Commission would stand by its commitment to the European Parliament on February 8 that it would strive for a long-term revision of the Community's financial structure.

That was why the Commission had not involved itself in the passage in the summit communiqué relating to the subsequent payment, he said.

Commission officials later explained that Mr Thorn wanted to indicate that the Commission would not come forward with a proposition on a refund to Britain this year, until plans for a long-term solution were "on the table".

This view was supported by Mr Adam Ferguson, MEP for Strathclyde West, a spokesman for the Conservative group, who demonstrated how the British attitude to the European Parliament took a "U" turn.

In December last year there was anger among the Conservatives about the Parliament's decision to block the British rebate of £500m for 1982 and Mrs Thatcher also condemned the move.

But since then, both she and the Conservative group have come to realize that Parliament could be Mrs Thatcher's best ally in forcing the Community to revise its financing so that Britain and West Germany do not have to pay unfairly high contributions.

Troops sent to quell fresh Karachi riots

Karachi (Reuters) - Troops were sent to control a fresh outbreak of religious violence in Karachi yesterday, as thousands of Muslim demonstrators burnt shops, houses and cars. Police were unable to control Sunni crowds in the Liaquatabad area, during a confrontation between Sunni and Shia Muslims.

Police earlier fired tear gas to break up a stone-throwing crowd in the predominantly Sunni area, where at least seven people were killed last month in clashes between the sects. The conflict is over ownership of a mosque.

Thirteen people were arrested for attacking policemen and damaging property and arrests were continuing, according to the police. Local residents said the clashes were set off by the stabbing of a Sunni youth, which the Sunnis blamed on Shias.

About 700,000 people live in Liaquatabad, of whom some 95 per cent are Sunnis, the majority sect in Pakistan. More than 6,000 people were said to have attacked a Shia meeting place about six miles north-east of Karachi's main shopping centre of Saddar. Another group of about 2,000 attacked a Shia mosque and made a bonfire of its furniture, while smaller groups set fire to shops and houses in the area.

Shia sources said about 30,000 people of their sect had already moved from Liaquatabad to other parts of Karachi after the clashes last month.



Leaving at last: Maria Chmykhalov, right, stands beside her son Timofei as they are visited by two other members of the family after deciding to return to Siberia.

Pentecostals prepare to quit embassy

Moscow (AP) - Six religious dissidents who have spent five years in a US embassy haven't hoping for Soviet permission to emigrate were preparing last night to leave the compound, a member of the group said.

The dissidents, members of the Pentecostal faith, believe they will receive exit visas, ending a two-decade battle to get out of the Soviet Union, Lilia Vaschenko, aged 25, told a reporter. They will be returning to their Siberian hometown to file the applications, she said.

Since last Wednesday, when another of their group, Lydia Vaschenko, aged 32, was allowed to leave the country, it had been expected that the remaining six might also be given permission.

The Pentecostals, five Vaschenkos and two members of another family, dashed past Soviet guards and into the embassy compound in June, 1978, in an attempt to leave what one called an "atheistic system in which we cannot live."

After years of refusing to consider the request of the "Siberian Seven," as they came to be called, the Soviet authorities last month told Lydia Vaschenko to resubmit her application for an emigration permit. She returned to Chernogorsk, Siberia, and did so, and then flew to Austria. She is now in Israel.

Lilia Vaschenko said yesterday that once they arrive in Chernogorsk they will probably have to wait two to four weeks for the arrival of a required invitation from Lydia to emigrate to Israel. The Vaschenkos are not Jewish, but Israel has been one of the most common destinations for would-be Soviet emigrants.

Advertisement for Europcar. The main headline reads: "Without a hire car, he could kiss the contract goodbye. He called the only name that gets you SUPER SERVICE....". Below the headline is a large illustration of a dark-colored hatchback car parked in a modern, brightly lit office building. A speech bubble coming from the car says "EUROPCAR!". The background shows architectural details of the building, including windows and structural beams.

Textual part of the Europcar advertisement. It includes the following text: "Whenever or wherever you need to hire a car in a hurry, say Europcar and you've got Super Service. Super Service? It means, amongst other things, that your nearest car hire office is likely to be Europcar. Because Europcar is the biggest car hire company in Britain. (Who else did you think it was?)". It also states: "We've got nearly three times more offices than anyone - over 260 of them throughout the U.K. So you get the choice of about three times more offices to pick a car up and three times more offices to drop it off. With no extra charge for one-way rental." Further text includes: "Including Europcar offices at 72 Inter-City stations and 18 major UK airports. Say Europcar and you'll also find the same Super Service at over 2,500 offices worldwide. Wherever you want to reserve a hire car, simply phone our Central Reservations number: 01-950 5050." At the bottom, there is a logo for "Godfrey Davis" and the "europcar rent a car" logo, with the tagline "In the U.S., Latin America and the Pacific, it's National Car Rental."

Four-nation peace drive in Central America launched by Colombia

From Geoffrey Matthews, Bogotá

Alarmed by continuing conflict in El Salvador, the danger of all-out war erupting between Honduras and Nicaragua and the intransigence of the United States towards Central America, the foreign ministers of four key Latin American countries embarked yesterday on a peace mission to the region, instigated by President Betancur of Colombia.

The Foreign Ministers of Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico and Panama are due to visit all five Central American republics (Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica) for talks with their counterparts, in an attempt to reduce tension.

The mission was not planned in advance, and was only agreed in Panama City on Sunday night, after Señor Betancur arrived on the final leg of a three-day trip which had also taken him to Venezuela and Mexico for talks on the Central American crisis.

The announcement was made yesterday by Señor Juan José Amado, the Panamanian Foreign Minister, after a long meeting with his colleagues from Venezuela, Colombia and Mexico.

After his discussions with President Luis Herrera Campíns of Venezuela, President Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico, President Ricardo de la Espriella of Panama and President Luis Alberto Monge of Costa Rica, who was also visiting Panama at the weekend, Señor Betancur said that the Central American crisis was even worse than he had expected.

He described the situation as "truly explosive", and also hinted that he and his colleagues were becoming increasingly irritated by the Reagan Administration's "hardline" policy.

Señor Betancur called for the immediate withdrawal of all foreign military advisers from Central America, the suspension of arms sales to the region, respect for the right of its peoples to self-determination, negotiations between the conflicting parties and recognition that the source of the conflict is widespread poverty and social injustice and not super-power politics.

suggested that what was required to resolve the crisis was the kind of Latin American solidarity which successfully supported Panama's claims to sovereignty over the Panama Canal.

He also hinted that Cuba must be brought into peace talks. "Everything is open, everything is possible. We are seekers of peace in Central America and for that reason we must talk to everyone."

Gabriel García Márquez, the Colombian winner of the 1982 Nobel prize for literature, said on his return to Colombia for his first visit in two years: "Colombia is now assuming the leadership which it should long ago have taken with Mexico, but which only Mexico has exercised in the past."

NEW YORK: Contentions by the Reagan Administration that the Sandinist Government of Nicaragua has hidden behind a smokescreen of national security to install a repressive regime and abolish dissent have been largely dismissed by the United Nations Human Rights Committee, a body of experts which monitors the state of civil and political liberties, Zoriana Pysarywsky writes.

Most individual members of the committee, who serve in their personal capacity rather than as representatives of governments, have described as admirable Nicaragua's performance in the area of human rights, in view of the military challenge to its leadership from right wing rebels and reported American covert operations to destabilize it.

Nevertheless, the Nicaraguan Government has not been "As long as Nicaragua forces legitimate dissent at home to follow violent means and persists in threatening and destabilizing its neighbours, it will never be stable, nor will Central America."

Mr Enders said that it was conceivable that Cuba or the Soviet Union could be tempted to escalate the conflict.

"Clearly a dangerous situation would then develop, unacceptable not only to Central America but to the American nations as a whole. We have communicated to Moscow and Havana how dangerous such a move would be."

Nkomo 'lost support of companies'

Harare (Reuters, AFP) - Two British companies have withdrawn financial and other support for Mr Joshua Nkomo, the exiled Opposition leader, because he broke a promise to return home last week, the pro-Government Herald newspaper reported yesterday.

Mr Nkomo said last week that he would remain in Britain indefinitely, after the publication in Zimbabwe of a Catholic bishops' statement alleging atrocities by government troops in his home province of Matabeleland.

The Herald said in a report from London that the firms, which it said had also withdrawn moral and political support, had spent £14,500 on Mr Nkomo and two aides since his flight.

Mr Nkomo, aged 65, fled Zimbabwe early last month, saying that Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, had ordered him to be killed.

The Herald report did not identify the companies sponsoring Mr Nkomo in Britain, saying only that they had holdings in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Kenya and other African states.

However, it appeared certain that one of them was Lonrho, whose chief executive, Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland, is a close friend of Mr Nkomo. The company in London refused to comment. Dunlop has denied that it is the other company.

The companies had kept in touch with the Harare Government throughout the affair, the Herald said. Mr Nkomo had been told through them that the only actions pending against him in Zimbabwe would be charges of emerald trafficking and the relatively minor charge of currency violations.

Not long ago we were told the price of oil would continue to rise indefinitely. Now banks, heads of state and OPEC members are frantically trying to prevent too drastic a decline. What are the startling implications of this phenomenon?

IF YOU WANT TO SURVIVE THE DOWNWAVE TURN TO PAGE 8

Non-racial unions try to form united front

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Seven independent and non-racial trade union groups have agreed to work for greater unity and to consider forming a new umbrella trade union federation. The decision was taken at a summit meeting of union leaders in Cape Town.

The seven groups represent about 220,000 of the 300,000 or so of the predominantly black members of the new breed of unions that has emerged over the past three years since the South African Government relaxed controls on union activity.

The biggest of the seven union bodies is the federation of South Africa Trade Unions, which has 1.3 million members and is affiliated and which has slightly over 100,000 signed-up members, mainly in the metal, chemical, textile and car industries.

Mr Jan Theron, general secretary of the African Food and Canning Workers Union, which is also one of the seven, said after the Cape Town meeting: "The time is long overdue for the formation of a new federation which can speak for the workers of this country and tackle the task of properly organizing workers."

Another big black trade union group, the Council of Unions of South Africa, has said it will not be taking part in the talks.

Another union standing aloof from the union talks is the unaffiliated Motor Assembly and Component Workers Union. The other chief union in the car industry, the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union, however, is an affiliate of the federation and will be taking part.

Differences over strategy have bedevilled the emerging black trade union movement, in many respects one of the most potent challenges the government must face. A strike in the Eastern Cape car industry last year, for example, by workers for a 76 per cent increase in minimum hourly pay was weakened by lack of support from the Motor Assembly and Component Workers.

Among the issues dividing unions is the question of whether or not to accept registration and operate within the government-approved industrial council bargaining system. Some unions see registration as tantamount to accepting government control, while others have found they can use the system to their advantage.

Some unions - like the Cape-based General Workers Union - which are not themselves registered feel registration should be a matter for each union to decide, while others, such as the radical South African Allied Workers' Union, have insisted that they will not work with any registered unions.

Last weekend's meeting in Cape Town, attended by several hundred delegates representing virtually the entire independent trade union movement, was the most important move so far towards trying to bridge some of these differences. A "feasibility committee" is to be set up over the next four to six weeks to pursue the idea further.

Speaking in the National Assembly, Chief Jonathan said that the South African offensive was not limited to armed attacks. It was extended to the economy as was shown by what he claimed was a campaign to discourage tourists from coming to Lesotho.

Chief Jonathan also alleged that a situation was being created whereby the movement of goods through South Africa to landlocked Lesotho would become virtually impossible, especially for supplies of military equipment.

completely exonerated, and concern has been expressed over the plight of the Miskito Indians, after their forced resettlement from the Nicaragua-Honduras border area.

The committee also criticized curbs on the press, cases of police abuse, the reported discrimination against a synagogue and the limited role of political parties.

WASHINGTON: The United States yesterday accused the Government of Nicaragua of repeatedly making clear its "contempt" for real negotiations, and said that the answer to Central America's problems was "democratization and dialogue among neighbours".

Mr Thomas Enders, Assistant Secretary of State, in a prepared statement to the Senate foreign relations committee, said: "The purpose of US policy in the area is to create conditions in which the area can be removed from East-West conflict, the import of offensive weapons and mutual support for insurgencies ended, and the democratic transformation of each society achieved."

Mr Enders was giving testimony after following allegations in the American press that the Administration is giving covert aid to the anti-Sandinist movement operating from bases in Honduras.

Referring to the Nicaraguan opposition, Mr Enders said: "It should be clear to you that it has appeared and expanded in response to deep grievances against the Sandinists. The groups opposing the Sandinist Government were Nicaraguans to the core."

"As long as Nicaragua forces legitimate dissent at home to follow violent means and persists in threatening and destabilizing its neighbours, it will never be stable, nor will Central America."

Mr Enders said that it was conceivable that Cuba or the Soviet Union could be tempted to escalate the conflict.

"Clearly a dangerous situation would then develop, unacceptable not only to Central America but to the American nations as a whole. We have communicated to Moscow and Havana how dangerous such a move would be."

Middle East: Lebanese stalemate; Foreign Secretary meets Husain

I must be governor, Haddad says

From Christopher Walker, Metulla

Major Saad Haddad, the temperamental south Lebanese militia commander, whose militia has emerged as the main obstacle preventing agreement between Israeli, Lebanese and American negotiators over the withdrawal of Israel's invasion force, threatened yesterday to resist any solution on which he had not been formally consulted.

Despite the flat refusal of the Beirut Government to offer its cashed-in officer any position in the new military set-up envisaged for Lebanon, Major Haddad is insisting on the position of "military governor of southern Lebanon".

Stating his terms publicly for the first time, he said: "I see my role as it is now, but it should be legitimized. I am effectively military governor of the south, and that must be made formal. If anyone wants to get rid of me, they will have to get rid of all the people in the south too, because they are behind me."

In an interview with The Times, he made no attempt to disguise his posture of frustration, anger and anxiety about the possible outcome of the slow moving talks over Lebanon, or about mounting American pressure on Israel to modify its insistence that he be made commander of all Lebanese soldiers based in the 27-mile deep security zone.

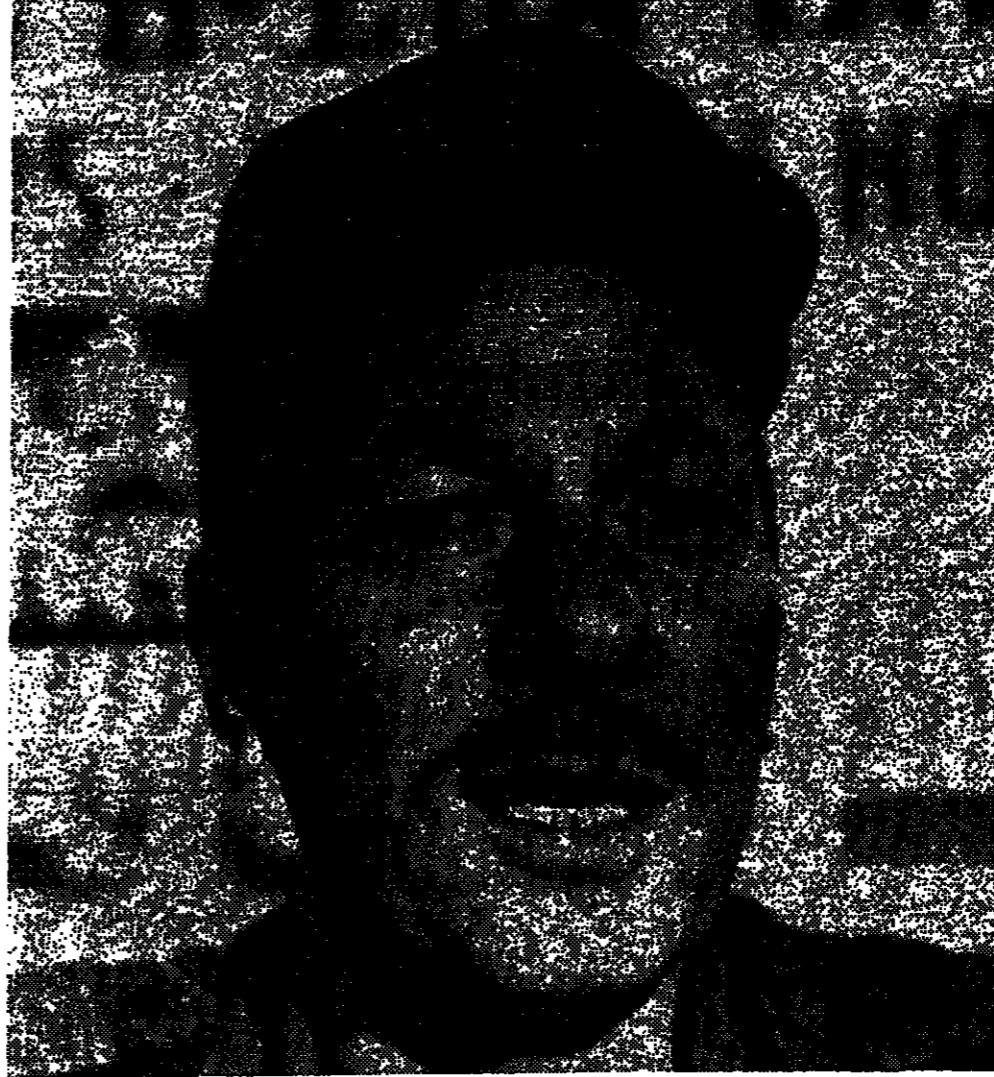
According to Washington sources, this pressure reached a new peak last week when Mr William Casey, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, made a clandestine visit to Jerusalem in an apparently vain effort to convince ministers that the revamped Lebanese army is quite capable of preventing Palestinian guerrillas returning to menace Israel.

"I do not know what I have done to upset the Americans because for seven years I have been fighting against leftists and communists," the major told me.

While we were talking in the seamy border hotel which serves as the major's unofficial headquarters in Israel, two Israeli generals suddenly arrived unannounced and engaged him in an animated Hebrew and Arabic conversation.

Their talk and final warm embraces were apparently intended to soothe the major's doubts that he is being ignored as negotiations reach a climax.

"I am grateful to Israel for pressing for my future, but you must know that whatever concerns me should be discussed by the Israelis and Lebanese with me personally, and not on my behalf," Major



Major Haddad: "The duty of every Lebanese is to prepare to fight the Syrians."

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"I am grateful to Israel for pressing for my future, but you must know that whatever concerns me should be discussed by the Israelis and Lebanese with me personally, and not on my behalf," Major

Haddad argued, thumping the shabby plastic table with his fist, much to the consternation of the Israeli officer overseeing the meeting.

On Monday, the major held a two-hour conversation with Mr Ariel Sharon, the former Israeli defence minister, - "a very close friend" - who was given a strong message to convey to the Israeli Cabinet when it convenes to finalize its position over security in the zone now often referred to as "Hezbollah".

The brunt of the militia leader's criticism is reserved for the Lebanese administration of President Amin Gemayel, which he claimed has made no effort to contact him formally since the Israeli

invasion expanded his border enclave last summer.

"My people in the south and those up in Beirut have been fighting the same enemies, we have the same contacts and the same ally in Israel, so why are they accepted and we are not?" He complained bitterly.

In the aftermath of last June's invasion, Israeli training and other assistance to the 2,000-strong Haddad militia force have been greatly stepped up.

"I am now taking more steps to increase my military effectiveness because we know that the Syrians are not going to withdraw peacefully," he said. "The duty of every Lebanese today is to prepare himself to fight the Syrians."

Act now, Pym urges Israel and PLO

Amman (Reuters) - Mr Francis Pym the Foreign Secretary said after talks with King Hussein last night that there was no feasible alternative to President Reagan's plan as a starting point for the Middle East peace process.

He urged Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) to seize the opportunity for peace "which will not recur and will not exist for much longer".

He was speaking at Amman airport after a three-hour stopover arranged after Jordan's announcement on Sunday that it had abandoned five months of talks with the PLO.

Mr Pym arrived in Amman on his way home from visits to Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates to hear King Hussein's views about the future of the Reagan plan, which the PLO has rejected in favour of a rival Arab plan.

"The events of the last week did not alter the simple reality that there is no feasible alternative to using the Reagan plan, despite the reservations that many countries feel about it, as the starting point for the peace process," he said.

For five months King Hussein negotiated with Mr Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman, for a common approach to Middle East peace. But on Sunday Jordan said the talks were over because the PLO had gone back on an agreement reached previously.

Jordan, which has been under American pressure to enter into direct talks with Israel, also said it would neither act alone nor by proxy in any peace negotiations.

It said the PLO and the Palestinians were free to follow their own course, but Jordan would continue to support Palestinian living in Israeli-occupied areas.

Mr Pym refused to answer reporters' questions about his working lunch with King Hussein. But his statement said Britain and Jordan were agreed all along that the priorities for the Middle East peace process were the withdrawal of Israeli and other foreign forces from Lebanon, freezing of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and using the Reagan plan as a starting point.

JERUSALEM: The tripartite talks between Israel, Lebanon and the United States shifted into higher gear yesterday with Mr Philip Habib, President Reagan's special Middle East envoy, taking an active part in the discussions at the Israeli resort of Netanya, Our Correspondent writes.

The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem would not comment on the reasons for the envoy's participation in the talks, the first time he has done so since these started last December.

There has been some speculation, however, that Mr Habib, who arrived in Israel on Monday, may have been instructed to give added momentum to America's flagging peace moves in the region after Jordan's decision on Sunday not to join the peace process.

Yesterday's round of talks, the twenty-ninth, ended after only two hours to enable Mr Habib to proceed to Jerusalem for meetings with Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Moshe Arens, the Defence Minister.

LISBON: The coffin containing the body of Issam Sartawi, the Palestinian leader who was assassinated at a Socialist International conference, said the modifications did not go far enough, but the party took note of the Government's intentions to work for greater social justice.

M. Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister, and architect of the austerity programme, told the Assembly that the tax would affect only two out of three households and the compulsory savings only one in three.

He also argued that the package would purge the two greatest evils plaguing the country - inflation and low international competitiveness - and enable the Government to pursue its long-term goals.

ence on Sunday, left Faro airport in Southern Portugal yesterday for Amman, AFP reports.

The body of Mr Sartawi, the personal aide to Mr Arafat, was transported by a Moroccan aircraft. His departure had been delayed because the aircraft had landed without permission, sources said here.

MUNICH: Mr Sartawi was wanted in West Germany in connection with a 1970 guerrilla attack in Munich in which an Israeli was killed, a public prosecutor said yesterday, Reuters reports.

In the Munich attack in February 1970, two Palestinians threw a hand grenade at a bus carrying passengers to an aircraft of the Israeli airline El Al at Riem airport, Munich.

Herr Otto Heindl, the Munich prosecutor, said the men had named Mr Sartawi as the organizer of the attack after being arrested. His office issued a warrant for Mr Sartawi's arrest for suspected murder and 18 counts of attempted murder.

Herr Heindl made clear there was no evidence that Sartawi was linked to the Olympic Games massacre in Munich.

French Communists yield on austerity

Paris (Reuters) - Parliament has empowered France's left-wing Government to enact austerity measures by decree after the Communist Party dropped a threat to abstain in the vote.

The National Assembly, where the Socialists have an absolute majority, voted 325 to 159 to enable the Government to introduce by decree new taxes and a compulsory loan by wage-earners to the state.

A potential crisis in the Government coalition was averted on Monday night when the Communist Party voted with the Socialists after winning a promise from M Pierre

Mauroy, the Prime Minister, to modify aspects of the package.

The Communists had threatened to abstain unless the Government agreed to five amendments to shift the burden of the fund-raising measures further on to wealthier taxpayers.

The Government gave way on two of the demands, agreeing to exonerate the poorest from a one per cent additional income tax to cover social security spending and to make further allowances for low-income households in the compulsory savings.

M André Lajoie, the Communist parliamentary leader, said the modifications did not go far enough, but the party took note of the Government's intentions to work for greater social justice.

M. Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister, and architect of the austerity programme, told the Assembly that the tax would affect only two out of three households and the compulsory savings only one in three.

He also argued that the package would purge the two greatest evils plaguing the country - inflation and low international competitiveness - and enable the Government to pursue its long-term goals.

Teheran claims 5,000 Iraqi soldiers killed

Tehran (AFP) - Fighting intensified yesterday along the southern Iran-Iraq battlefield on the third day of a Iranian thrust that Tehran Radio said had taken the lives of more than 5,000 Iraqi soldiers.

The campaign, which began on Sunday night, has enabled Iranian forces to regain control of some 60 square miles of Iranian territory, according to communiques issued here, and to "annihilate completely" an Iraqi battalion.

Iraqi military authorities, in a communique monitored in Bahrain, gave few details of the latest fighting.

However, a spokesman announced earlier that more than 3,000 Iraqis had been killed since Sunday and that the campaign by Iran had been checked in the Missan sector of the front.

Observers in Bahrain said Baghdad's silence, yesterday indicate that Iran was exerting considerable pressure on Iraqi forces and could suggest that its troops now occupied several hundred square kilometres of Iraqi territory.

Yesterday's clashes took place in the Faldesh region along the border, about 40 miles east of the Iraqi city of Amarah.

Turkey's autumn elections Thwarting the Byzantine politicians

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara

President Kenan Evren, Turkey's military leader, has indicated that he will pit his personal prestige to block any lingering attempts by former politicians.

"We shall spare no efforts to foil their Byzantine intrigues," he said, calling on people to do the same and elect "brand new representatives" in general elections which are to be held in the autumn.

General Evren, in speeches at Denizli and Uslu, blamed former politicians for failing to rise above their narrow interests.

The President pleaded for the old political labels of Republican and Justice parties not to keep the electorate divided into hostile camps. He also urged students not to allow their political views to foment clashes at the universities, which would be strictly "depoliticized".

The universities have already been purged of academics considered too liberal or radical

by a 25-man higher education board, most of whose members are appointed by the President and the Government.

In a recent press conference, the board's president, Professor Hsan Dogruncu, admitted that 40 academics were dismissed in recent months on the orders of the martial law authorities and about 200 had resigned.

General Evren refrained in his speeches from giving an exact date for the general elections, nor did he say anything which could be interpreted as a "green light" for resumption of political activities. He said he would speak in more detail only after the legislation for the new political parties and electoral law was completed.

Political observers expect him to campaign actively against the influence of former politicians when the new parties are allowed to form. In his speeches he said that if Turks allowed themselves to be swayed by the former politicians they would be negating the benefits of the military takeover.

The new political parties Bill, introducing restrictions on the organizational structures, activities and finances of the new parties, is awaiting the final seal of approval - probably next week - by the ruling National Security Council.

Slap in face ends Corsican's EEC career

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

A Corsican nationalist has been dismissed from a senior post at the European Commission after slapping the personnel director across the face.

After an appeal through the institution's disciplinary procedure, M Jean-Francois Ferrandi, an official in the external relations directorate, has been told that he has lost his job from the beginning of next month.

Zhao plea to Hawke

From David Bonavia, Peking

Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, left Peking by air yesterday for visits to Australia and New Zealand.

Answering questions at Peking airport Mr Zhao said that he hoped to have an "in depth" exchange of views with Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, on the question of aid to Vietnam, which China

Minister sacked

Singapore (Reuters) - Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Singapore Prime Minister, yesterday dismissed Mr Lim Guan Eng, Minister without Portfolio, as the country's trade union chief, but kept him in the Government pending reassignment to a ministry.

Lim Guan Eng, Minister without Portfolio, as the country's trade union chief, but kept him in the Government pending reassignment to a ministry.

Ban on Copt

Cairo (Reuters) - An Egyptian court upheld a ban on the Coptic Pope Shenouda III, in 1981, the late President Sadat banished the 60-year-old pope to a desert monastery and stripped him of his temporal powers for "fomenting sectarian strife".

Teachers killed

Lima (Reuters) - Three teachers who refused to indoctrinate pupils with left-wing ideology were killed by Maoist guerrillas in Peru's Ayacucho province, a government official said but he did not name the school or town.

Storms kill 41

Dhaka (AFP) - Dhaka newspapers put the death-toll in last weekend's hailstorms in Bangladesh at 41. In Dhaka, a young girl hit by a hailstone died in hospital.

Measles deaths

Port Elizabeth (AFP) - Some 100 black and Coloured children here have died of measles in the last three months, the Cape Province health authorities announced.

Three defect

Stockholm - Three Polish wrestlers touring with a national team have applied for political asylum in Sweden.

Fears for six after attack on yacht

Singapore (Reuters) - A West German-owned yacht with six people on board was set on fire after being fired on near the disputed Spratly Islands in the South China Sea, official sources in Singapore said.

The Sidharta left Singapore on Saturday with five West Germans, including its co-owner Herr Peter Marx and his Chinese girl friend to set up an amateur radio link on the Spratlys. Radio contact with the 31ft vessel was lost after it sent a distress message saying it was ablaze after an attack. It did not identify the attackers or give its exact location.

The Spratly Islands are occupied by forces from the Philippines, Taiwan and Vietnam. China and Malaysia have also laid claim to the islands, which are believed to have rich offshore oil reserves.

Frenchman set free by Peking

Peking (AFP) - China has released a 49-year-old French-Chinese man who had been held in labour camps since 1955, French sources said here. M Raymond Razillon was freed last month and left for France on Friday.

Born in China of a French father and a Chinese mother, he was detained in Shanghai with other members of the Roman Catholic community during an anti-religious wave.

Napoleon's debt to be repaid

Zurich (Reuters) - President Mitterrand of France has promised to make a "symbolic" repayment of a debt Napoleon incurred with a Swiss mountain village nearly two centuries ago.

The village of Bourg St Pierre wrote to the French Embassy in Berns last week asking how France planned to repay the debt of 45,334 Swiss francs (about £14,000 at today's rates) which Napoleon left behind in 1800 on his way across the Alps to Italy.

Marcos gives his seal of approval

Manila (AFP) - President Marcos and his wife have given their blessings to the controversial marriage of their eldest daughter, Imee, to a divorced basketball coach, Tommy Manotoc, a spokesman for Mrs Marcos said here.

Imee, who is 27, gave birth to a boy in Honolulu last Saturday and President Marcos, asked if he was resigned to being called a grandfather, was said to have replied: "More so than the first lady."

Briton stranded

Fears are growing for the safety of David Hempleman-Adams (above), the lone polar explorer. He has been stranded in the Arctic ice by bad weather with just a few days of food remaining. Mr Hempleman-Adams, aged 26, from Bristol, had passed the halfway mark in his attempt to walk solo to the North Pole when the weather deteriorated.

Teheran claims 5,000 Iraqi soldiers killed

Tehran (AFP) - Fighting intensified yesterday along the southern Iran-Iraq battlefield on the third day of a Iranian thrust that Tehran Radio said had taken the lives of more than 5,000 Iraqi soldiers.

The campaign, which began on Sunday night, has enabled Iranian forces to regain control of some 60 square miles of Iranian territory, according to communiques issued here, and to "annihilate completely" an Iraqi battalion.

Iraqi military authorities, in a communique monitored in Bahrain, gave few details of the latest fighting.

However, a spokesman announced earlier that more than 3,000 Iraqis had been killed since Sunday and that the campaign by Iran had been checked in the Missan sector of the front.

Observers in Bahrain said Baghdad's silence, yesterday indicate that Iran was exerting considerable pressure on Iraqi forces and could suggest that its troops now occupied several hundred square kilometres of Iraqi territory.

Yesterday's clashes took place in the Faldesh region along the border, about 40 miles east of the Iraqi city of Amarah.

Slap in face ends Corsican's EEC career

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

A Corsican nationalist has been dismissed from a senior post at the European Commission after slapping the personnel director across the face.

After an appeal through the institution's disciplinary procedure, M Jean-Francois Ferrandi, an official in the external relations directorate, has been told that he has lost his job from the beginning of next month.

Zhao plea to Hawke

From David Bonavia, Peking

Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Chinese Prime Minister, left Peking by air yesterday for visits to Australia and New Zealand.

Answering questions at Peking airport Mr Zhao said that he hoped to have an "in depth" exchange of views with Mr Bob Hawke, the Australian Prime Minister, on the question of aid to Vietnam, which China

THE ARTS

Theatre
Implacable sense of doom

Blood Brothers
Lyric

So this is the great new hyped-up musical? Reports when it started at Liverpool suggested that it was first and foremost, an accomplished and thrilling theatrical experience, but arriving in Shaftesbury Avenue it now gives a different impression: a show whose justification lies rather in the urgency of its message than in the clumsy dramatic vehicle constructed to carry it.

Visible prejudice

Mitzi Wildebeest
The Gate, Latchmere

There are two sides to Mitzi Wildebeest. One is the laughable, big-top, South African cousin to Dame Edna Everage. The other is the descendant of the Voortrekkers, evoking the ghost of her great-great-grandmother walking barefoot over the Drakensberg Mountains to escape British rule.

She begins by writing on the blackboard: "The Scissor, freak

murderous enmity between, the natural brothers of which the whole of society is made. Omens artificially heighten the sense of doom - magics, snakes on tables, broken mirrors in a cumbersome apparatus of superstition, constructed only to knock it down.

The production by Chris Bond and Danny Hillier is fluently staged without taking a sufficiently brutal line with this sprawling script. They have a moodily excellent supporting company, switching instantly from grown-up neighbours to a yardful of kids whose rituals and play of violence furnish a facile connexion with the uncanny force of destiny and real bullets in the adult world.

Anthony Masters

untree". Read it quickly and that is all you need to remember about South Africa, she says. She gives a slide show of South African scenes - the Wildebeest Dutch colonial house and backyard with swimming pool - then she expounds the divine righteousness of the Afrikaner hardliners: "If God had been a liberal he wouldn't have given us so many commandments, he would have made ten suggestions."

Clare Colvin

Opera
Once more, with feeling

Don Pasquale
Covent Garden

Ave atque vale. The present revival of Donizetti's comic masterpiece offers a last chance to see Sir Geraint Evans in his subtlest buffo interpretation, for he has announced that he will not sing Don Pasquale again. But, as in previous runs of this production mounted for him 10 years ago, he spreads his beneficent welcome over new arrivals: Luciana Serra as a totally assured and marvellous Norina, Francisco Araiza making his house debut as Ernesto, and Guido Ajmons-Marsan also appearing here for the first time to conduct a performance that on Monday lifted from a shaky start to achieve rattling fast tempos and silky expressiveness in the strings, so capturing the twin poles of this sentimental comedy.

Fun and feeling are also the hallmarks of Sir Geraint's interpretation. Since Don Pasquale is the victim almost throughout of a deception, it would make for a hollow evening if the one playing him were also manifestly to deceive, to act up the fussiness.

Living this is only one aspect of a living performance. Another is the number self-awareness he touches when he is apprised of his supposed wife's affair. Another is the skirmish of warring rapidly in his Act III duet with Malatesta, the coda here justly encoored and made still more fizzing.

Miss Serra also offers much more than a fair share of vocal brilliance. In fact, she sings all



Lyricism and sadness: Francisco Araiza (left), Geraint Evans

through with exciting, polished perfection, and she acts as she sings: with simple and utter command. She can also be as much the young girl as the little madam, even within a single phrase, with perhaps a first half coming out with steel-tipped coquetry and a second pulling back into fresh loveliness.

Everything appears to be precisely calculated, but blessed with the spontaneity that any performance must have when it

is operating at this level of virtuosity and staying there. Mr Araiza is a no less cultivated singer, but of a softer kind, the voice always tidily presented and smoked with a delicate ardour. He was unlicked at the end of his cabaret in the second act but in his second he was the gentle soul of lyricism, and in the ensuing duet he provided exactly the right tender support for Miss

Serra's row of pearls: this was an exquisite moment.

Jonathan Summers, returning as Malatesta, is highly accomplished but nearly always a trifle hesitant, as if uncertain about the ironic distance he should keep behind his role. Paul Crook enters the cast as a nicely lascivious and croaky Notary, contributing his bit to what is a super evening.

Paul Griffiths

Concerts

Smetana Quartet
St John's/Radio 3

Milan Skampa, the viola-player of the Smetana Quartet, has worked for many years on Janacek manuscripts, unearthing new sources for his edition of the "Kreutzer Sonata" Quartet, which the group brought to the BBC lunchtime concert on Monday.

Hilary Finch

Warne Marsh
Pizza on the Park

Not often in a jazz club is it difficult to find an appropriate moment in which to unloose a discreet cough. On Monday night Warne Marsh, the great American tenor saxophonist, and his partner, the pianist Lou Levy, redrew the parameters of an audience's attention with duets of such sensitive detail that even the brief rasp of a cigarette lighter or the gentle gurgle of liquor into a glass seemed a barbaric intrusion; plates of food went cold on every side as the pair wove a spell which will doubtless be maintained when they appear across town tonight to the Pizza Express in Soho, where they will spend the remainder of the week.

Hilary Finch

Television
A world of debris

Unemployment in Bolton is above the national average and it was the purpose of BBC1's documentary Nothing Doing last night to give us a taste of the depression that is not just economic but psychological if you are being hit over the head with it.

Three-year contact under the scheme but feared it would end as soon as he was 19. His girlfriend was pregnant and we saw them married. Shortly afterwards his fears were proved right.

Six teenagers were examined in differing degrees of depth to show the hopelessness and listlessness of life without prospects. They reflected these qualities so abjectly that one wondered how the selection came about, whether Bolton's youth, suffering as it undoubtedly is, is quite like this.

Then there were Pete, apparently with a prison sentence hanging over him, and his two brothers, Roy and John. We never did find out what Pete's

offence was, and his predicament seemed irrelevant to that of his two brothers. Their father considered the YIP just exploitation, and thought they should have none of it.

They were all shot on sunless days with a kind of loitering technique that made everything look like debris. It was a technique that demanded little participation from the subjects and Paul Watson's programme was poorer for it.

On BBC1 also, Reluctant Chickens concerned another social phenomenon: the tendency of children to stay at home long after they should fly. Many might think this a tragedy for parents but David Cregan sought to make a comedy of it. Patrick Troughton, as the GP father, Gwen Watford, as the mother, and the rest of the cast did their best, but if the chickens were reluctant the comedy never cracked the shell.

Dennis Hackett

Jazz
Relaxed intensity

Warne Marsh
Pizza on the Park

unpredictability, yet their logic is so implacable that one gasps and grins as they unfold. "Subconscious-Lee", written by his old colleague Lee Konitz, was pure, uncut Tristanote music full of flying fingers and glancing tangents; on the other hand, "How High the Moon" was stroked down to ballad tempo and enunciated with a simple, singing lyricism.

Levy, who enjoys less of an in-grown reputation, was every bit as remarkable. On the Konitz tune he displayed the tensile strength of Bud Powell allied to an architectural sensibility all his own. With "I'm Old Fashioned" he produced a definition of the ideal of relaxed intensity, including the stealthiest imaginable conversion to a lifting double-time. His tune "Lunarcy", based on playful Monkish leaps, allowed the pair to develop contrapuntal inventions with telegraphic precision and with the spontaneous warmth which suffused every second of their music.

Richard Williams

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Richard Williams

ENTERTAINMENTS

OPERA & BALLET

COLLEGE ST 01-5311 CC 240 2800 ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA... THE ROYAL OPERA... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE...

CONCERTS

BARBICAN HALL... ANNA DAVIES... DAVID KIRWAN... JOHN MOPPATT... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE...

THEATRES

APOLLO THEATRE... TOM CONTI... PAULINE COLLINS... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE...

AMBAASSADORS

COMEDY THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE...

GLASS

DAISY PULLS IT OFF... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE...

LYTTLETON

THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE...

RSC THE TAMING OF THE SHREW The RSC has a success to be proud of

THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE...

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THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE...

DRAWING IN THE ITALIAN RENAISSANCE WORKSHOP... Leonardo da Vinci, Pisanello, Carpaccio and other early Renaissance Artists...

ACADEMY 2 Eduardo de Gregorio's ASPERN From the story by HENRY JAMES

THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE... THE SWAN THEATRE...

Depo-Provera: a drug on trial

Jenny Bryan reports on the facts and fears surrounding the controversial contraceptive

The controversial injectable contraceptive Depo-Provera goes "on trial" before a panel of distinguished medical and legal experts in London next week. They will decide whether the drug should be licensed for long-term use in Britain in the face of massive adverse publicity in America, where it has been claimed the drug is dangerous, might be misused and might be given only to poorly educated socially deprived women without their understanding its implications.

The American manufacturers, Upjohn, have fought for a British licence for Depo-Provera, which is at least as effective as the Pill and more reliable than the IUD, cap or sheath, for seven years.

Next week's British hearing has arisen because Kenneth Clarke, the Health Minister, chose as one of his first ministerial actions to overrule the committee on Safety of Medicines which advised him to grant Depo-Provera a full licence for women for whom other methods of contraception were inappropriate. Mr Clarke is believed to have taken his decision because of the risk of women of low social class being given the drug without their informed consent.

One of the hearing's key witnesses will be Dame Josephine Barnes, a former president of the British Medical Association, who will argue that the problems of giving Depo-Provera to women who cannot understand its risks and benefits are no different from those of any drug.

Already, the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists and the Family Planning Association have come down in favour of Depo-Provera becoming just another alternative in the choice of contraceptives.

No one is quite sure what will come out of the hearing. No drug wrangle has ever reached the stage of the agreed procedures. Kenneth Clarke has already overruled his medical advisers once - he could, in theory, override the independent panel's recommendations too.

Upjohn does not stand to make a lot of money out of Depo-Provera in Britain. Around two million women get the Pill from their GP - at a cost of about £13.5m. According to Dame Josephine, several thousand women who would probably get Depo-Provera if it were fully licensed. But a positive decision from the British authorities would help Upjohn to sell the drug in other areas - such as developing countries - where the market is much larger.

In its 400-page written evidence to the panel, the Coordinating Group on Depo-Provera, composed of women actively involved in women's health issues, has drawn on information it has received about more than 100 women who felt they were not fully informed of the possible side effects of Depo-Provera.

Many were women with a poor understanding of English for whom no provision had been made for information to be given in their own language.

Six out of seven women who answered an appeal for women who felt they had been mistreated in one London health district were black and several were young unmarried mothers.

Three years ago one professional singer got an out of court settlement of £3,750 from King's College Hospital, London, because her career was disrupted as a result of side effects from Depo-Provera which had not been fully explained to her.

The drug has been used most widely in developing countries where there have been many reports especially from Africa and Asia of women given the drug without their fully informed consent and of doctors exceeding their own countries' recommendations of its use.

There was even a report of women in a Cambodian refugee camp being given the drug with the promise of extra food. Even so, the drug is used as part of WHO and International Planned Parenthood Federation contraception programmes.

At present several health authorities including America and Canada are considering whether to license Depo-Provera, after lengthy debate on the medical and social implications. In the past, the US has refused to license the drug for even short term use.

The Coordinating Group on Depo-Provera - the main pressure group against the drug - will not be allowed to give verbal evidence at the hearing. But its comprehensive written evidence would do justice to an organisation with much greater resources at its disposal.

Much of the evidence rests on the known side effects of the drug but also raised doubts about the largely unknown long term effects of continued use of Depo-Provera. The group argues that if Depo-Provera is to come on the market at all its use should be limited and controlled so that the terms of the drug's licence are not exceeded.

Upjohn's expert witnesses - a list of whom reads like a Who's Who of obstetrics and pharmacology - will give verbal evidence. The hearing will be held in the conference suite, Riverwalk House, Millbank, London, SW1, starting on Monday, April 25, 1983 at 10am.

On the panel will be Professor Rosalinde Hurley, chairwoman of the Medicines Commission at the DHSS, Professor A. Ascher, also a member of the Medicines Commission, Ian Kennedy, director of the Centre of Law, Medicine and Ethics at King's College, London, Professor H. Jacobs, consultant gynaecologist and Professor F. A. Langley.



Third World population control: Depo-Provera is given to a young woman in Thailand

The benefits and side-effects

Depo-Provera is a synthetic form of one of the body's natural hormones, progesterone. Each injection prevents pregnancy for at least three months by stopping a woman's eggs developing and by making her womb hostile to any fertilized egg which might creep through.

Since 1978 Depo-Provera has been used in Britain for short-term contraception, which means one, or at most two, injections. Doctors can, and often do, exert their "clinical judgment" and give Depo-Provera for longer periods - for years, rather than months.

There is evidence that Depo-Provera has been misused - given to socially disadvantaged women without full counselling about the drug and its side effects. Its very nature makes it an ideal drug for women who find it impossible to remember to take the pill or use other forms of contraception. A few doctors are thought to have taken it upon themselves to inject such women - often after an abortion or an unwanted child - without explaining the full implications of the drug.

Depo-Provera often prevents a woman from having her normal period. This in itself worries women given insufficient counselling since they think they may be pregnant when their periods stop. In the first months or even up to a year after taking the drug she will have some unpredictable bleeding. Before the injection is given there is no way of knowing whether this will be mild or severe.

Once the injection is given there is

no turning back - for the first months the woman must simply "grin and bear it" if she is one of the unfortunate minority who bleeds severely.

Depo-Provera does not cause permanent infertility but women may be slow to conceive after they stop the drug, so it is better kept for women not planning further children. It is often these older women who have a narrow choice of contraceptive methods because their weight, blood pressure or smoking puts them at risk of heart problems if they take the pill.

An enthusiastic supporter of Depo-Provera is Dr John Tyllieski, of the department of obstetrics and gynaecology at the general hospital in Motula, southern Sweden, and also runs his own practice. He believes Depo-Provera is the best contraceptive for women over 35 who do not want more children, and half of his patients in that category use the drug.

Motula is a provincial town with a population of about 30,000 and is far removed from the poor inner cities of Britain when Depo-Provera achieved its controversial status. More than 400 Motula women use the drug, a proportion at least 20 times greater than in the rest of Sweden.

Dr Tyllieski recently surveyed 182 women who first had Depo-Provera in the early 1970s. Some had had a single injection, others had stayed on the drug for 12 years. Four out of five liked the drug, but 22 per cent had stopped it because of side effects. The most common of

these were irregular bleeding, weight gain, decreased sex drive and depression.

Since most women who stopped treatment did so within a year of starting Depo-Provera, the survey supported the view that, provided women can cope with the bleeding irregularities in the first months, they generally use the contraceptive for several years.

And what of the benefits? Forty-five per cent of the women in the survey said that not having periods was an advantage, as was the simplicity and reliability of the method.

One woman I spoke to at Dr Tyllieski's clinic, started having Depo-Provera nine years ago after suffering a thrombosis that made it impossible to continue with the Pill. She experienced some bleeding in the early months, but it was not bad enough to make her stop the treatment. A bonus was the disappearance of eczema and migraine from which she had previously suffered.

Two other women had started Depo-Provera because of the risk of circulatory problems with the Pill. One had high blood pressure, the other a family history of heart problems.

The eldest patient Dr Tyllieski had had on the drug was 54. Since there is a tentative theory that Depo-Provera may have a role in protecting women from breast cancer, the doctor believes women should continue to use it even after the menopause.

PENNY PERRICK'S DIARY

Transport of delight across the Irish Sea

Conemara Ireland begins at Liverpool, or at least on the B & I (British and Irish) car ferry which nightly crosses the Irish Sea. For years, I used to spend the night on board in a bunk which throbbed with vibrations from the adjoining engine room, or, worse, wriggling on a recliner seat in a lounge awash in stale Guinness. Then I married a man who'd endured a spartan upbringing in a Methodist parsonage in Cornwall. To shake off the effects of this gloom start in life, he became an incomparable sybarite. Within minutes of boarding the boat, he discovered a row of boatdeck cabins reserved for the gentry. Now we travel in style in what looks like a miniature Ideal Home Exhibition stand, all bright primrose and fitted carpets. It's a ladylike way to cross the sea, but I raise the night life below deck, full of men clutching armfuls of duty-free Bailey's Irish Cream and men who look as if they could tell you what really happened to Shergar, had they a mind to.

organization called Women in the Home, says that you cannot expect Irish women to act like their starker European counterparts - having careers and husbands who can rustle up an excellent blanquette de veau - until traditional housing arrangements are drastically altered and Ireland is peppered with easy-care apartments instead of hard-core houses. She's right. The Irish women I know spend whole chunks of their lives in sagging cardigans and midsplattered wellies, pegging out an endless line of washing, carrying buckets of turf to the fire and cooking on primitive stoves. By the time their last child is grown, it's time for them to be caring for their first grandchild. Sometimes when the rain wets their newly dry washing and their stove smokes, I pity them but not, I suspect, as often as they pity me.

In Conemara, where the only studied glances that come my way are from the cows, I go through a transformation - hair cuts, eyes glow, spots vanish. Back in London, subject to heavy scrutiny, the process is reversed. Sometimes when the rain wets their newly dry washing and their stove smokes, I pity them but not, I suspect, as often as they pity me.



Today, I drove into the little grey town in the west, fourteen miles along the coast road. In the Conemara Marble Shop, they sold paperback copies of Molly Parkin's novels alongside earnest biographies of Douglas Hyde. I bought an English newspaper and an Irish magazine. The newspaper wrote about Michael Winner's battles with an overly-strict film censor and, on another page, had an article to the effect that virginity is good for you. The magazine carried a savagely disapproving article about the woman who chairs the Pro-life Amendment Campaign and a short story about a woman who didn't much like her baby. Cross-cultural influences at work here, I'd say.

Ireland is having a hard time in the EEC, which wants to drag her screaming and juggling into a world approved by London NW3. Constantly under fire by Eurocrats of the Hampstead persuasion is what is known as "our traditional Irish married life", in which the wife has a lot of children and the husband has a lot to drink. A very sensible woman, Nora Gillingham, of an

I am led down many stately corridors and then through an impressive wooden door marked "Ladies Underwear". Inside is a large sign: a sunbanned model in a pale blue bra from the autumn collection weaves her way around the desks at which sit primped men and frilly-browed women. None is distracted. Nor do they look up when I setze one of M & S's brand new lines, introduced by popular demand - a double D sized bra. Good grief, each cup would hold a week's groceries. My own physical problems seem puny indeed.

Funier still when M & S decide that the ill-fit of their tights is not because of any abnormality on the part of my legs. Graciously, they promise to let me test-run future samples hot off the production line and, gratefully, I scamper from St Michael House, before they decide to drag me off to their laboratories to check me for spillage, shrinkage and loss of colour.

Tomorrow Modern Times meets the night people - those who work while others sleep.

IN 1928 THEY SAID A DEPRESSION COULD NOT HAPPEN. CAN YOU BELIEVE THOSE SAME VOICES IN 1983 ... THE DOWNWAVE ROBERT BECKMAN

Over the last few years we've been told, again and again, that the road to economic recovery is just round the corner. Is it? Dare you continue to believe the so-called experts whose predictions have been so consistently proved wrong?

Robert Beckman believes you should not. Since 1979 his has been the lone voice warning that there is no meaningful proof whatsoever to support forecasts of economic recovery.

Now, in *The Downwave*, he spells it out with devastating frankness in a no-holds-barred guide to the upheaval that lies ahead. And he backs it all up with incontrovertible evidence, not all of it economic.

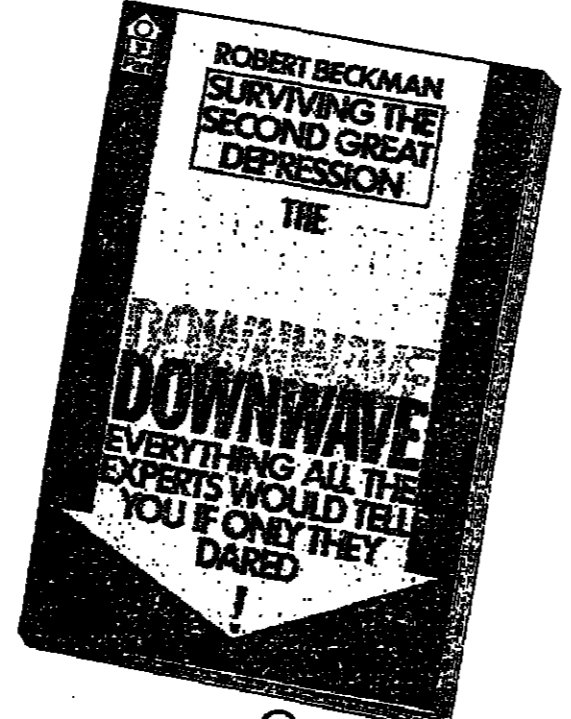
His message is simple but positive. You can survive the recession by using it. There are steps the man in the street can take to secure the future. There are opportunities that will never again occur in our lifetime. Beckman shows you the way.

His advice is backed by a successful track record of financial forecasting. Over the

Available now in bookshops throughout the country.

years Beckman has put his money where his mouth is and successfully demonstrated to many investors and members of the public how to stay one jump ahead. This advice is now offered to you in *The Downwave*.

The Downwave by Robert Beckman is everything the experts would tell you if only they dared. Can you afford to ignore it?



Pan Books

The solution to the great blue trout mystery

The menu said blue trout in German. Not speaking more than six words of the language, blue trout and *wiener schnitzel* were the only dishes in the whole list I could even identify. No one in the neat, empty lakeside restaurant spoke English or French, so I pointed at the trout, called for a glass of wine and sat back to admire the view of snow-iced peaks posing above their own darker reflections.

Some considerable time later the waiter returned with a ceremonial assembly of domed silver dishes and jugs. With a flourish he lifted the largest dome to expose a whale of fish. Its skin did indeed have a curious blue bloom and, knowing no better at the time, I assumed that the fish grew like that in the deep lakes thereabouts. Well, there are brown trout and rainbow trout, so why not blue trout?

Of course I soon learned that this blue business is a piece of culinary artifice and that the skin of any fresh, unwashed trout can be made to turn blue before your very eyes. It is the natural slime, for want of a more appealing description, which changes colour when the fish is poached in an acidulated stock. Some recipes call for huge amounts of vinegar which are not only unnecessary, but spoil the taste of the fish. Lemon juice, or white wine will also do the trick. But you do need fresh, not frozen fish, and they should be handled as little as possible. Marks & Spencer's fresh farmed Scottish rainbow trout worked beautifully for this recipe and those which follow.

Our native brown trout caught in fast-flowing waters are highly prized. Farmed, usually rainbow, trout are not the most thrilling of fish though they are usually pretty enough in a sunbanned spotty sort of way. But however fresh farmed fish is, its unathletic lifestyle or some other aspect of its super-controlled existence, produces flesh which is softer and has less tone and taste than that of a wild fish.

The best fish call for the simplest of cooking methods - frying in butter or grilling over wood. Farmed trout or any that have been frozen repay a little extra care.

THE TIMES COOK



Shona Crawford Poole

- 30g (1 oz) butter
- 4 tablespoons seasoned flour
- 1 clove garlic, finely chopped
- 2 tablespoons white wine vinegar
- 2 tablespoons chopped chives or parsley to garnish

Gut the fish, cut off the fins and wash and dry them. Cut the bacon in dice or narrow strips and put them in a cold frying pan. Heat slowly and steadily until the fat runs and the bacon is cooked and beginning to crisp. Then add the butter.

Coat the fish with the seasoned flour and add them to pan. Cook them for about five minutes on each side, turning carefully only once. Lift the fish from the pan and arrange them on a warm serving dish. Drain the bacon and sprinkle it over the fish. Keep warm.

Fry the garlic briefly in the fat remaining in the pan. Remove the pan from the heat and stir in the vinegar. Pour the sauce immediately over the fish and serve with a sprinkling of chopped chives or parsley and plainly boiled new or old potatoes.

Nuts and trout are another well tried combination. Usually sliced almonds or hazel nuts are fried golden brown in butter after the fish has been sautéed, and the nuts then sprinkled over the fish. But the nuts can also be used to coat the fish before baking them.

- Baked trout with almonds
- Serves four
- 4 plump trout
- 55g (2 oz) butter, melted
- 110g (4 oz) almonds, very finely chopped or coarsely ground
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 1 lemon

Gut the fish, cut off the fins, and wash and dry them. Paint the fish with melted butter and coat them in the chopped or ground almonds. Season them lightly and lay them in one layer in a well buttered baking dish. Spoon any remaining melted butter over them.

Cook the trout in a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F gas mark 4) for about 20 minutes. Serve immediately from the baking dish with a freshly cut wedge of lemon to squeeze over them.

- Trout with bacon
- Serves four
- 4 plump trout
- 225g (8 oz) smoked bacon, lean and fat

Gut the fish, cut off the fins, and wash and dry them. Paint the fish with melted butter and coat them in the chopped or ground almonds. Season them lightly and lay them in one layer in a well buttered baking dish. Spoon any remaining melted butter over them.

Cook the trout in a preheated moderate oven (180°C/350°F gas mark 4) for about 20 minutes. Serve immediately from the baking dish with a freshly cut wedge of lemon to squeeze over them.

TALKBACK

Delius unsullied

From J. R. Heron, Consultant Neurologist, North Staffordshire Hospital Centre, Hartshill, Stoke-on-Trent. Dr Thomas Stuttaford (Medical Briefing, March 18) quotes from Professor Southill who was shown Sir John Coneybear's case notes, indicating that the negative blood WR test for syphilis - the absence of involvement of the dorsal columns of the spinal cord, the absence of dementia, and Sir John's own expert opinion - are all strong evidence that Delius's final illness was not due to syphilis.

A further indication that this illness was not due to acquired syphilis is that his father was known to have suffered from a similar disease, years previously. In the nineteenth century and early twentieth century relatively obscure hereditary or sporadic spinocerebellar degenerations and demyelinating diseases of the central nervous system, of unknown aetiology, were not uncommonly and understandably, wrongly diagnosed as being due to syphilis.

A careful appraisal of Sir John Coneybear's case notes on Delius would certainly offer the best, and only satisfactory evidence on which to base a final and informed conclusion.

DIY cures

From Daniele Ryman, Director, Marguerite Maury, Aromatherapy, Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly, W.1.

Like Dr Linda A. Anderson and Dr J. D. Prilligan (Letters March 26), I read the *Modern Times* column "Turning to the quack" (March 24) with concern. What I particularly find alarming is the implication of self-prescription. I have come across several cases where the essential oils from sage and rosemary can, through the wrong dosage, cause epileptic fits. Another example is the essential oil of camphor, in particular the cheap variety from Japan which can be toxic. This is recommended for colds and coughs.

What I would therefore suggest is that these natural remedies be administered by experienced practitioners. A list of these can be obtained from the Institute of Complementary Medicine, 21 Portland Place, London W.1.

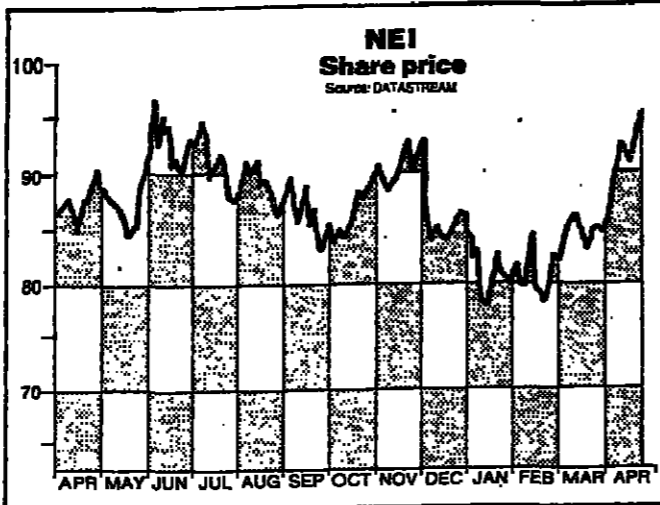
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INVESTORS' NOTEBOOK edited by Sally White

Lower profits dent Smiths share price

Smiths Industries Half-year to 29.1.83 Pretax profit £9.5 (£11.2m) Turnover £183m (£187m) Net interim 4p (same) Share price 411p down 11p Yield 3.8% Dividend payable 13.5.83

In the industrial companies, there was a fall from £2.7m to £1.8m at the trading level and there seems little chance of improved volumes. The Australian and South African companies had a sharp setback, with sales slightly lower at £29m, and profits down from £2m to £42,000. The drop reflected recession in both countries, but although those economies are still in the doldrums, Smiths reports improvements in trading, although it believes results will be substantially lower for the year as a whole.



another £3m to reduce debt further. Plans for five new Comfort Inns are well advanced and will cost Comfort only £1m; its quoted but unnamed property partner will put up the balance of £9m. Occupancy rates last year were better than in 1981, with bookings indicating that 1983

Comfort Hotels International Year to 20.12.82 Pretax profit £1.3m (£274,000) Stated earnings 1.84p (0.1p) Turnover £28.5m (24.1p) Net dividend 0.65p (0.6p) Share price 32p Yield 2.5%

could see an improvement of perhaps 5 per cent, only six months after a similar rise. The return of tourists to London should benefit the hotels, strikes restaurants and the Dayvilles ice cream parlours. Strikes in at last to get a quote on the Unlisted Securities Market. Overseas, the losses from the Netherlands have been much reduced and profits are expected this year.

Comfort Hotels International

The years figures for Comfort Hotels International are not unreasonable, given the state of the industry, but the company gearing that is warranted. However, the sale and lease-back arrangements with Routeston have already brought in £3m, reducing borrowings to £16m. Completion of outstanding deals will soon bring on

Considering Bowthorpe Holdings' disappointing interim figures, the profit for the year of £12.4m against £11.4m could have been worse. But it looks as though the electrical engineering company is still waiting for more recovery in Germany, Australia and South Africa and further improvement in the US. A stronger world economy could take profits to more than £14m this year, helped by the rights issue cash.

Annual Report 1982.

In a difficult year, our figures only tell you half the story.

HALF THE STORY.

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1982, 1981. Rows include EM, Premium Income, Underwriting Losses, Investment Income, Pre-Tax Profit, Tax, Attributable Profit, Earnings per Share.

THE OTHER HALF.

RESERVES Exchange rate movements added to the sterling measure of our net assets overseas and, together with favourable developments in investment values, combined to produce total surplus funds of £923 million and a world-wide solvency margin of 75% - a clear demonstration of the strength of our financial resources and the security this gives to all our policyholders.

DIVIDEND The Board are recommending a final dividend of 9.5p per share, making a total of 17p per share, an increase of 4.6%. Despite the earnings decline, the Board consider some small dividend progression justified by a cover of 1.8 times.

CLAIMS Our exceptional underwriting losses in the UK highlighted the extent of the insurance protection we provided for our policyholders, both private and commercial, during perhaps the worst winter in living memory. But we believe it is to give just this kind of support that we are in business.

LIFE ASSURANCE I am pleased to record outstanding results for new individual business in 1982, with increases in both sums assured and premiums well above market average. The figures were boosted by more attractive premium rates for non-smokers, a new bonus series and the first Plain-English life policy in the UK.

MANAGEMENT As I travel both at home and overseas, I am encouraged to see the skill and dedication of a new generation of management moving into positions of leadership within the Corporation. It is in their hands that our future prosperity will lie.

NEW TECHNOLOGY Investment in new technology proceeds and although the full benefits remain to be reaped in future years we are already seeing welcome returns in several areas of our operations.

THE WAY AHEAD I take most comfort from the indications of an incipient economic recovery in the United States. If this is encouraged to gather pace and leads to an end to the long recession elsewhere, then we can begin to hope for an increase in the demand for insurance and some easing of competitive pressures induced by over-capacity.

In the meantime we must resolve that our share of a market still contracting is not defended at any cost. From the Annual Statement by the Chairman, Mr. Gordon R. Simpson.



General Accident Fire & Life Assurance Corporation plc.

World Headquarters, General Buildings, Perth, Scotland PH1 5TP.

The complete story of how we did in 1983 is included in our Annual Report for the year. A copy can be obtained by writing to the Secretary at the address above.

COMMODITIES

Large table of commodity prices including London Metal Exchange, International, Rubber, Coffee, Cocoa, Sugar, Soybean Meal, and various futures contracts.

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

Arrangements are in hand to place 1.2 million ordinary shares of Unigroup at 50p each to raise about £73,000, after expenses. This will be made available by Unigroup to its 80 per cent-owned subsidiary, Kavco Marketing.



Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the 142nd Annual General Meeting of United Kingdom Temperance and General Provident Institution will be held at United Kingdom House, Castle Street, Salisbury, Wiltshire, on Wednesday, 8th June 1983, at 11.15 am, for the following purposes.

- 1. To consider the documents comprised within the Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1982. 2. To re-elect the following directors who retire by rotation in accordance with Rule 8.01: Mr. W. M. Clarke, Sir John Riddell, Bt., Mr. J. G. Curtis. 3. To re-appoint Messrs. Deloitte Haskins & Sells as the auditors to the Institution and to authorise the directors to fix their remuneration.

By Order of the Board S. V. Finn Deputy General Manager (Property) and Secretary 23rd March 1983

AIR CALL communications



AIR CALL PLC Preliminary Results for the year ended 31st December, 1982

Table with 3 columns: Item, 1982, 1981. Rows include Turnover, Group Profit subject to taxation, Taxation, Group profit after taxation and before extraordinary items, Extraordinary items, Group profit before dividends, Dividends, Retained profit, Proposed final dividend per share, Earnings per share.

1. Extraordinary items include the Company's share of the Cellular Radio Licence Application and goodwill arising from the acquisition during the year of three radio telephone businesses. 2. The Directors are recommending a final dividend of 3.75p net per share making a total for the year of 5.6p net.

N.B.

The Department of Industry, after protracted negotiations, have informed us that they will issue to Air Call in the immediate future, a Radio Comm Carriers' Licence and a letter of intent to issue a further Licence to cover line and international communication activities when the present Telecommunications Bill, which is currently before Parliament, becomes law.

In the past we have had to struggle to enter new fields of communications and to expand services. These Licences are, therefore, of enormous importance and will enable us to develop with far more certainty than would otherwise be the case.

Obviously we have to hold an A.G.M. in the near future but before I fix a date for this I want to be able to report that we have the Licence and the letter of intent.

J. O. Stanley Chairman

Base Lending Rates

Table of base lending rates for various banks: ABN Bank (10 1/2%), Barclays (10 1/2%), BCCI (10 1/2%), Consolidated Crds (10 1/2%), C. Hoare & Co (10 1/2%), Lloyds Bank (10 1/2%), Midland Bank (10 1/2%), Nat Westminster (10 1/2%), TSB (10 1/2%), Williams & Glyn's (10 1/2%).

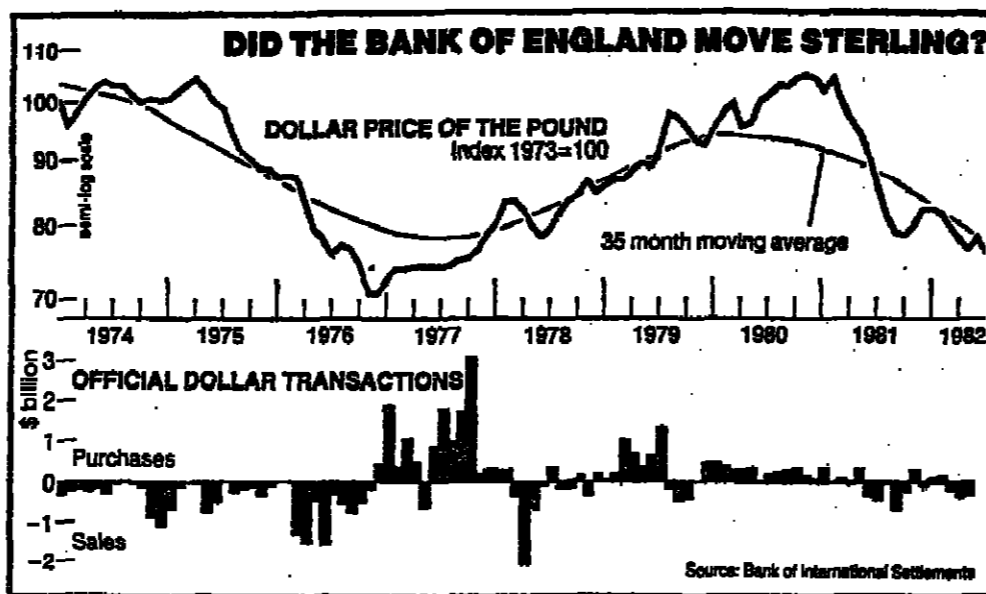
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APPOINTMENTS

New joint chief at Aitken Hume

Mr M. C. Scory has been appointed joint chief executive with Mr M. Aitken of the Aitken Hume Group. Dr G. Hetherington has become deputy chairman of TSL Thermal Syndicate. Mr David Kern is the new manager and chief economist, market intelligence department, of National Westminster Bank. Mr Michael Fletcher has been appointed managing director of Planned Savings Group. Mr B. S. Sheppard becomes a director of Olympic (Redacre). Mr C. J. M. Parker has been elected chairman of A. Caird & Sons. Mr Abel Hadden has been appointed director of Good Relations Group and chief executive of Good Relations, the consumer public relations subsidiary. Mr W. M. Alder is the new manager of National Westminster Bank's Bahrain branch. Mr J. M. Chapman has been appointed finance director of Erskine House Investments. Mr John P. Clark has been elected to the board of Wigham Poland Pension Consultants. Mr Colin E. Brewis has been appointed a director of Wigham Poland Non Marine. Mr W. J. Fox is joining the board of LCP Holdings. Mr John Earl has been made managing director of Haden Dryers International, the industrial finishing and mechanical handling division of Haden. Mr J. A. Griffiths has joined the board of Initial, in the newly-created position of finance director. Mr J.W. Moffat has been appointed a managing director of Marley Floors. Mr W.D.H. Gregson has become a non-executive director of H. Brammer. Mr G.J.A. Jamieson, a director of Robert Fleming Holdings, has been elected chairman of The Charities Official Investment Fund. Mr Helmut Sothen has become a senior vice-chairman of World-Wide Shipping Agency, in Hongkong. Mr Stephen Y.K. Pao has been appointed as senior executive director of World-Wide Shipping Agency, and also as director of Maritime Navigation, the group's affiliates in London.

None but the most steady of monetarists now believes that exchange rates are best left solely to market forces. The wild week-by-week movements of currencies in recent years have often borne little relation to real economic forces. European governments (with a brief post-election lapse by the Thatcher Government) have not hesitated to buy or sell their own currencies when they see fit from the "helpful hand on the tiller" advocated by the Bank of England governor to the all-out defence of the currency pursued - though without conspicuous success - by the French. But the Americans, whose currency still dominates the world financial scene, refuse to play ball. Their policy of "benign neglect", which has accompanied a soaring dollar, has, Europeans claim, deepened the world recession and held back economic recovery by pushing up interest rates and inflation. Whether currency intervention, as distinct from more fundamental policy changes, would have made a great deal of difference is doubtful. But the technical intervention issue has become overlaid with more political passions. In microcosm, it represents the war being waged by Europe on American economic isolationism. A retreat from "benign neglect" would, the European camp hopes, pave the way for further modification of US policies to take account of their international repercussions, notably by action to curb rising budget deficits. To the Europeans' delight, the Americans have scored something of an own goal with their suggestion at last year's Versailles summit for a study on the efficacy of intervention. This successfully defused the issue for a while, as it was intended to do. But the report, due to be published shortly, before the Williamsburg summit next month, supports the European stance. Though it makes no recommendations, its technical analysis suggests that intervention does work in reducing currency fluctuations. The study, chaired by M Philippe Jurgensen, a senior French finance official, draws a distinction between "sterilized" and non-sterilized intervention, according to whether the authorities allow their foreign exchange operations to affect domestic money policy or not. Intervention, say, to support sterling automatically tightens money conditions at home because the Bank of England is buying pounds and taking them out of circulation. This puts upward pressure on interest



Growing call for US currency intervention

rates unless the effect is counteracted or "sterilized". Clearly, sterilized intervention is likely to be less effective than if the authorities had allowed money conditions to tighten. Reinforcing action by governments, to squeeze money policy further, will have an even greater impact on the currency. American intervention has typically been of the sterilized variety because their system of targeting bank reserves would otherwise lead to cash floods or famines in the money markets as dollars drained in or out of the system. In Europe, where the authorities tend to target broader money measures, intervention has normally been non-sterilized. In Britain, for instance, the Bank of England offsets the effects of its currency transactions in its money market operations - for the same reasons as the Americans do it. But these transactions would normally affect the main target measure of money growth. The amount of intervention since

1977, when the cap was lifted from sterling, has generally been very small. So, in practice the direct impact on domestic monetary conditions has been negligible. The fact that American intervention has typically been less effective than European currency operations may provide a face-saver for Mr Beryl Sprinkel, US Treasury Undersecretary and arch-opponent of intervention, but it is not going to deflect pressure on the Americans to come into line when heads of government discuss the issue again. Further support for the European position comes in another paper published last month by the Bank for International Settlements, the central bankers' club based in Basle. This concludes, from a study of foreign exchange operations by Britain, Germany and Japan, that official intervention is predominantly stabilizing. "These findings would appear to put the burden of proof on those who argue that the official role in the exchange markets has been primarily unhelpful and will continue to be so in the future", the study says, in an unmistakable sideways at the United States. The paper's authors, whose views broadly reflect those of the BIS, reject the use of a

profitability criterion. This is the most widely used measure of the effectiveness of currency intervention and the one, albeit surrounded by caveats, on which the Jurgensen study was based. Instead they looked at whether intervention pushed the exchange rate towards or away from its long run equilibrium rate as measured by a 35-month moving average. Where the exchange rate was close to its equilibrium level they judged that intervention was helpful if it pushed the currency back towards its last observed level - on the grounds that the authorities may not know precisely where equilibrium lies and may wish to prevent movements going too far. On the first criterion alone stabilizing interventions outnumbered destabilizing interventions between 1974 and 1982 by 2 1/2 to 1 in Germany, and 4 to 1 in Japan. In Britain the balance was roughly equal. Using both tests together the

ratio was 6 to 1 in Germany and Japan, 2 to 1 in Britain. The British performance is weakened by the 1977 episode where the authorities intervened massively to stop sterling rising. Since early 1979, the BIS study suggests, stabilizing intervention has been 11 times more frequent on the first criterion and six times more frequent taking the two together. The object of official intervention, the study suggests, should be to give the currency markets a clearer idea of where the long-run equilibrium level of the exchange rate ought to be. "The prime purpose of official intervention should not be to 'outguess the market' but, in conjunction with other policy actions, to create a more stable and predictable environment", the authors say. There are growing signs that the United States may be willing to hedge. The American authorities have recently ventured, on the odd occasion, tiny sums in exchange operations. In policy terms that represents a defeat for the hardliners, though its impact on the currency will have been negligible. Mr Anthony Solomon, president of the New York Fed, which carries out US official intervention, said a few days ago that the outlines of an understanding on limited intervention could be reached at Williamsburg. Finally, the Americans are beginning to talk openly about the need for changes in the international monetary order. Such calls will meet with cynicism in Europe unless the United States shows itself willing to make concessions. However, even if agreement on currency intervention is reached, this will do little to ease the more fundamental problem of long run swings in exchange rates which bear little relation to economic performance. The fixed exchange rate system imposed economic convergence between countries through the discipline of balancing their trade. Now governments are arguing that convergence is a precondition of more stable exchange rates. It will take more than a couple of academic studies to produce agreement here.

Frances Williams

Official Intervention in the Exchange Markets: stabilizing or destabilizing? by Helmut Mayer and Hiroo Taguchi (BIS Economic Papers No 6 - March 1983).

Industrial notebook

Aircraft that should be left grounded

Britain's struggling aerospace industry is becoming more strident in its calls on the Government to commit vast sums on Europe's latest, decidedly dubious aircraft ventures. Mrs Thatcher and her ever-optimistic team know that in this industry the funds and the gamble are enormous. But the odds against success for the proposed "mini Airbus", the 150-seat jet airliner being developed by the Airbus Industrie consortium, are longer still. Even so, the Government appears nearly ready to spend the money - up to £400m - even though the Airbus consortium has yet to provide the British, French, West German and Spanish partners with much hope of a return. The aircraft, the A320, would turn Airbus's products into a proper family - like Boeing's of the United States - and it is being planned as a very high technology, super efficient, big profit earning short-haul jet. But it appears unlikely that it will ever get off the drawing boards. Even if it does, it is unlikely to fly before the 1990s and then will have to compete with the mighty Boeing. With the world's airlines reeling from recession, nobody is forecasting with confidence when the market will revive sufficiently to warrant the massive investment - probably as much as £1,000m - necessary to build a new aircraft. By the end of the decade, business air travel in particular is likely to be eroded dramatically by advances in electronic communications. The result for Airbus is a Catch 22 dilemma. Governments will not stump up the cash until airlines order enough A320s to make the project practicable and the airlines are wary of countenancing themselves before the aircraft becomes a reality. Public utterances have shown admirable caution on the part of the British and Germans, who have been attacked by the French for being too timid with their money. In the midst of bickering, Mr Norman

Lamont, Britain's Industry Minister, said recently: "We have had far too many prestige and political aircraft in this country in the past."

The A320 is an unnecessary luxury for Britain at the moment. British Aerospace last week reported a dramatic deterioration in its fortunes - from a £70m profit in 1981 to a £15.3m loss last year, the result of a £100m "exceptional provision" to insulate itself from the poor state of the aircraft market.

Rolls-Royce, whose losses have bounded from £3m to £13.4m over the same period, is now in bed with its archrival, Pratt & Whitney of the United States, to continue work on a new engine to power 150-seater jets. That project, which also involves Japanese, Italian and German manufacturers, could add £500m to the "lunch aid" bill presented to Mrs Thatcher.

Boeing has spent about \$40m on its 150-seater, the 7-7, but the plane remains a designer's dream and the company is banking more on the continued success of the 737, of which later versions could be equipped with Rolls-Royce engines. Each-way bets in the aircraft business are far safer.

Renewed turbulence now surrounds the A320. British Airways apparently being nudged by the Government to ape Air France and place some orders. BA buys American jets and does not want Airbus but it may find the political pressure irresistible.

At the Paris Air Show next month, the Airbus consortium will no doubt be making confident noises about the A320, but the British Government would be better to remain cautious despite the tempting employment benefits that BA's 30 per cent share in the aircraft would bring.

Meanwhile, Boeing's canny executives are sitting contentedly on the sidelines watching with glee the European governmental sparring and humbling that American ditty: "Anything you can do..."

Edward Townsend

Table with multiple columns listing financial data, including 'Authorized Units & Insurance Funds' and 'Insurance Bonds and Funds'. It contains numerous rows of numbers and company names.

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BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

Shares of Debenhams, the department store chain, continued to scale new heights yesterday on hopes of a bid once the UDS battle has been decided.

Debenhams at record 125p

ACCOUNT DAY: Dealings began, Monday, Dealings end, April 22, Contango Day, April 25, Settlement Day, May 3.

The price rose 7p to a new high of 125p as more than 1 million shares changed hands after hours alone. At this level the group with 67 department stores is valued at £167m. Favourite candidate to make a bid is Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron Group, currently tied up in the Bassishaw consortium bidding for UDS.

Meanwhile, the rest of the equity market showed no signs of running out of steam. Blue chips led the way higher on hopes of an imminent cut in bank base rates with the FT Index closing another 3.8 up for a new peak of 687.7 - for a two-day rise of 12.7.

Foreign exchange, where it ended up 1.45 cents at \$1.5415. But earlier gains of more than £1 were pared by profit-taking as investors raised cash for application in the new top, where dealings start tomorrow. In longs, prices ended the day 1/2% easier, while shorts were 2 1/2% lower.

Looking for pretax profits of around £90m against £62m for the corresponding period last year. Despite recent American support, most of yesterday's support came from British investors hoping for further signs of a recovery.

64 per cent of the shares. The offer has now gone unconditional. Michael Ashcroft's, Kean & Scott, has also won its battle for control of furniture manufacturer, Alpine Holdings, with the offer now going unconditional. Acceptances totalled 7.3 million shares, including 679,000 shares in respect of the separate cash offer, which accounts for 77 million shares at 50p to raise £373,000. The money will be used to sell its air-based-refillable aerosol system.

On the unlisted Securities Market, shares of Fitch & Co were unchanged at 125p despite Monday's figures showing the group easily exceeding profits with pretax profits of £875,000 compared with the earlier figure of £825,000.

Millford Docks rallied after Monday's shake-out with the price closing 25p dearer at 75p, still reflecting the recent cash-raising proposals. Earlier this year, the shares were traded at around 150p amid hopes of a long-awaited bid.

However, with a net asset value of 226.3p a share, the temptation to make a bid for the company remains great. Debenhams had no comment to make.

Even the surprise £77.2m cash call from GKN, Britain's biggest engineering group, failed to dampen enthusiasm as the price tumbled 16p to 162p. FT Group lost 2p to 162, after 158p, in sympathy.

Gills continued to reflect growing optimism of a cut in base rates and the pound's continued recovery on the

help of the FT constituents was ICI, one of the biggest British industrial companies, jumping 14p to a high of 416p, after 420. The group is due to report first quarter figures on April 28, with the market

C. H. Beazer has won control of Second City Properties by the skin of its teeth. Acceptances for its 77p a share bid, valuing the Birmingham-based property group at £18.1m, amounted to

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Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for FINANCIAL TRUSTS and INSURANCE.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for INVESTMENT TRUSTS and DOLLAR SPOT RATES.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for EURO-DEPOSITS and GOLD.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for PROPERTY and RUBBER.

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for LOCAL AUTHORITIES and DOLLAR STOCKS.

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Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, Dividend, Yield. Includes sections for PROPERTY and RUBBER.

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FOOTBALL: SETBACKS OFF THE FIELD AND ON

Taxing problems for Hartlepool and the League

As another Football League club, Hartlepool United, of the fourth division, admitted that they face financial collapse...

Another subject "not for discussion" was that of televised football when the League chairman gathered on Monday...



Coppell: Out of FA Cup semi-final

Coppell injury gives Wilkins a reprieve

Steve Coppell, the England winger, is out of the Manchester United team to play Arsenal in the FA Cup semi-final at Villa Park on Saturday...

Pat Jennings, the Arsenal goalkeeper, had a successful comeback in a specially-arranged reserve match against Charlton yesterday...

David O'Leary, a central defender, who has played only twice since injuring his ankle against United in the Milk Cup semi-final...

Inquiry into 'fixed' Inter match

Rome (AFP) - Another match-fixing scandal has emerged in Italy three years after the one which led to several players being banned and two clubs demoted to the second division...

McLean to quit as Ayr boss

Willie McLean has resigned as manager of struggling Scottish first division club Ayr United, his assistant, George Caldwell, has been appointed caretaker manager...

Clearance for Ilkeston after appeal

The non-League club, Ilkeston Town have won an appeal against an FA commission who prohibited them from filling in control their Nottingham Forest until the end of the season...

Confusion over World Cup visits

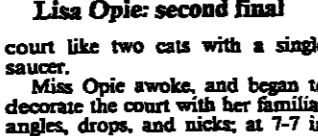
Mexico City (Agencies) - Senior officials of FIFA, the world's governing body, have arrived here to assess the country's application to stage the 1986 World Cup finals...

Proctor leaves

Sunderland have failed to keep Mark Proctor on the Republic of Ireland squad for the first leg of the World Cup final...

SQUASH: SETTLING ARGUMENTS IN BRITISH OPEN

Lisa Opie, the Nottingham-based Guernsey player, and Gamal Awad, the Dartford-based Egyptian, yesterday earned their chances to succeed Vicki Cardwell, of Australia...



Lisa Opie: second final

Chappell a pro-am celebrity

Spinner on the European circuit last year, Greg Chappell, the former Test cricket captain, will be in the Australian team for the first international pro-am change match against Britain at Moor Park, Rickmansworth, on July 18...

England sweep the board

England won all their matches yesterday in the home countries schoolboys hockey championships played at Dublin and Swansea, Sydney Friskin writes in the under-19 tournament in Dublin...

RUGBY LEAGUE Clubs with no homes

The Rugby League's decision to refuse extensions of the first and second division seasons is causing severe problems, particularly for teams attached to football clubs...

FOR THE RECORD

GOLF: WEST HILLS: Peter and Steve Founstone won the 18-hole, 4-man, 45-minute, 1st round of the West Hills Golf Club...

SNookER

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying round 2: Dennis Taylor 5-1 John Williams (A), 10-4; Jimmy White 5-1 Willie Thorne (A), 10-4...

RUGBY UNION: PROFESSIONAL GAME MOVES A STEP NEARER

Circus with a ring of confidence

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

The spectre of a professional Rugby Union player just as football raised its head again to haunt the game's administrators as a result of yesterday's suggestion that an Australian sports promoter was assembling 200 of the world's leading players to join a professional troupe...

whether rugby union could not be played at two levels just as football raised its head again to haunt the game's administrators as a result of yesterday's suggestion that an Australian sports promoter was assembling 200 of the world's leading players to join a professional troupe...



Graham Mourie: Warned of impending world cup

The latest plan, names David Lord, the Australian sports promoter, and television commentator, as the man who is assembling eight international squads from the four home countries, France, New Zealand, Australia and the Rest of the World to play a series of seven world tournaments over the next three years...

Mr Lord, it is said, is making his plans on the realistic basis that every man has his price and if the administrators of the member countries of the International Board believe that the ethos of the amateur game is sufficient to prevent players from taking advantage of such a lucrative offer, they are even further from the players' viewpoint than the players themselves already believe...

down in 1977, following the Lions tour to New Zealand. At that time it seemed more in the nature of a testing of the waters. This year there is not likely to be any announcement of a professional circus until late summer when another tour to New Zealand has run its course...

Need for collective ability on Portuguese tour

During the three matches they will play on tour against Portuguese opposition this week, England's 16 group schools side are unlikely to be so effectively "cleaned out" of possession as they were by Wales at Bristol on Monday evening, David Hands writes...

YACHTING

Italians introduce their crew

Rome (AP) - The Italian consortium launching Italy's first challenge in the America's Cup, has introduced the crew members of the 12 metre yacht Azzura at a press conference, expressing confidence in their preparations...

CRICKET: UMPIRES' CLASS OF '83

The 25 men who will officiate at this season's county matches.

Captains to take a line on a matter of length

The majority of first-class cricketers, at yesterday's meeting of the Cricketers' Association, only heard Bob Willis, the England Cricket Board later this month...

Garner gathers three wickets in lively spell

Bridgetown (Reuters) - Joel Garner took three wickets in 13 overs to put Barbados firmly on course for victory over the Indians here yesterday. He helped reduce the Indians, 26 behind on the first innings, to 193 for six in their second innings at lunch on the fourth day at Kensington Oval...

Chappell wants to be one of boys

Colombo (Reuters) - Greg Chappell said yesterday that he would not be available to captain the Australian team for the first leg of the Ashes series against England in Sri Lanka, which starts with a one-day international match here today...

Boost for tour

The work's professional tour received a £7,000 boost when it was confirmed that the UBM northern classic would be staged at Arcot Hall, Northumberland, from June 16 to 18...

An upright David who could smite the Goliaths Master of the classical style

A generation ago, whenever cricketers discussed the great stylists of the game, the name of Lionel Palairet (who died on March 27, 1933) found support, even though he had played only one season...

but he gave it up in favour of a forward style. Nevertheless he continued to enjoy a lofted drive and hit the ball in the air more than most elegant batsmen. "His hits fly like good golf balls"...



Palairet: man of the perpendicular bat

He had a younger brother, Richard, who also played for Somerset, though nothing like so well. He became, however, secretary of the MCC side to Australia in the "bodyline" tour...

Lionel was the taller, broader, more commanding man, though he does not seem to have liked captaincy much. He is, Altham saw him score many runs and wrote in 1926: "Even now I can recapture something of a thrill when I recall that glorious off drive, with a flight like a good clock shot, swimming over the low white railing on the Trenton ground"...

It is interesting that both Fry and Altham compare the Lionel Palairet drive to golf shots. Altham ends: "From the day on which I first saw it, his Harlequin cap took on the colour of all earthly ambition!" This is a remarkable tribute from a man usually careful and sparing in his praise...

Alan Gibson

RACING: 2,000 GUINEAS PICTURE BEGINS TO TAKE SHAPE

Peacetime camp prepared for victory march

By Michael Phillips, Racing Correspondent
Peacetime, Ivano, Be My Native and Count Pahlen stood their ground overnight, so the group three...

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Muscattile holds the challenge of Spanish Place in Newmarket's Craven Stakes

Danzatore's extra tour of duty

By Michael Seely
Danzatore, the 6-4 favourite for the 2,000 Guineas, runs in the McCairn's Trial Stakes at Phoenix Park...

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Gaselee to fly high on Another Breeze

By Dick Hinder
select field which includes Lord Leighton, Young Ducky and Solid Rock.

Gaselee's non-neighbor, Nicky Henderson, will be hoping Anson can complete a treble in the three-mile Alpine Meadow Handicap...
Another Breeze will be a promising second to Saturday at the last Ascot meeting...

POINT-TO-POINT

No holding Nostradamus

By Ian Reid
The Haythrop traditional four-mile race for the Lord Ashbur of the Lyde Cup, run over four lengths...

The Haythrop traditional four-mile race for the Lord Ashbur of the Lyde Cup, run over four lengths...
The grey Starry, ridden by Elsie Mitchell, led almost from the start...

Newmarket

- Draw no advantage
Tote Double 3.10 and 4.10. Treble 2.35, 3.40 and 4.40
[Television (TV) 2.35, 3.10 and 3.40 races]

Ascot NH

- Tote Double: 3.05, 4.10. Treble: 2.30, 3.40, 4.40
[Television (BBC1) 2.30, 3.05 and 3.40 races]
2.0 TRILLIUM HURDLE (handicap; £3,868; 2m) (14 runners)

3.40 ALPINE MEADOW HURDLE (handicap; £4,568; 3m) (22)

- 1 0030 DONALD PRINCE (C) P Kelly 7-10-2
7 1205 BOBBY MOORE (C) B Chan 7-10-13
11 0000 ACEES WILD (F) W Fisher 5-10-4
12 0000 TUDOR ROAD (C) L Kennard 6-10-0

Newmarket selections

- 2.0 Gentle Gypsy. 2.35 Redanor. 3.10 Able Albert. 3.40 Famous Star. 4.10 Majestic Endeavour. 4.45 Teacoco.

Hamilton Park

- Draw advantage: middle to high numbers best
2.15 TULLIETUDDEN STAKES (2-y-o selling; £222; 5f) (4 runners)
2.45 DOLPHINTON STAKES (2-y-o maiden filling; £215; 5f) (8)

Haydock Park

- Tote Double: 3.15, 4.15. Treble: 2.45, 3.45, 4.45.
Draw advantage: 6f and over low
2.15 MORNINGTON CANNON STAKES (2-y-o maiden; £1,648; 5f) (5 runners)

TENNIS

A head older than its years

After an opening day of rain, overnight frost played havoc with the shale courts at the Edgbaston Archery Club...

With a day and a half's play loss, the girls were quickly upfitted and taken to nearby Tully Ho. There, in a muddy swamp, more than a few of the competitors were at her best...

There have been many occasions when one has come across Linda Hayward giving a bigger and more convincing performance than any other girl...
After the match, the girls were taken to nearby Tully Ho.

Hamilton Park

- 2.15 The Small Miraculous (2-y-o) Bossanova Boy (5-11) Target Ball (2-2) 1/2 m
2.45 The Sunlight (2-y-o) Houghton Weaver (4-1) Mergal (2-1) Geraldine Lady (2-2) 1/2 m

COMMONWEALTH GAMES

Threat of boycott removed

There will be no change in the Commonwealth Games Council's code of conduct until at least next year...
The immediate threat of a boycott of the next Games in Edinburgh in 1986 is therefore lifted.

GYMNASTICS

Soviet fall-out at Wembley

Soviet gymnasts have withdrawn from the Champions All International tournament at Wembley on Saturday...
The Soviet Union has not, in recent years, won a gold medal.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

- 14 00-01 ELIZA DE RICH (C) Dany Smith 8-11 (3)
17 00-00 GLENORIE LADY (C) K Ivory 4-8-2
21 00-00 OCHS, HILLI STAR (A) A Bell 10-7-10

Haydock Park selections

- 2.15 Boca Ratón. 2.45 Elygate. 3.15 Ridgefield. 3.45 Chellaston Park. 4.15 Saxon Fort. 4.45 Annandale Brae.

Newmarket results

- 3.05 (21) CRUVEN STAKES (3-y-o & 4; £1,537; 1m)
BRUGATTE b c by Habitat - Talante (A) 21.80
3.15 (22) STREETWORTH STAKES (3-y-o)
BOLS STREETWORTH b c by Atrium (B) 21.80

Hamilton Park

- 2.15 The Small Miraculous (2-y-o) Bossanova Boy (5-11) Target Ball (2-2) 1/2 m
2.45 The Sunlight (2-y-o) Houghton Weaver (4-1) Mergal (2-1) Geraldine Lady (2-2) 1/2 m

Sedgefield

- 2.15 1, Oyston Tower (4-8) P. 2, Prady Trough (10-1) S. L. (2) G. (2) 1 1/2 m



Brian Taylor double at Newmarket

RUGBY UNION

First Division: Bedford v Northampton, Worcester v Warwick, Bath v Gloucester, Exeter v Plymouth, Leicester v Cornwall, Saracens v Wigan.

OTHER SPORT

Swimming: National Championships - 200m Freestyle, 400m Freestyle, 800m Freestyle, 1500m Freestyle, 500m Backstroke, 1000m Backstroke, 200m Breaststroke, 500m Breaststroke, 1000m Breaststroke, 50m Butterfly, 100m Butterfly, 200m Butterfly, 400m Butterfly, 800m Butterfly, 1500m Butterfly, 100m Medley, 200m Medley, 400m Medley, 800m Medley, 1500m Medley, 50m Individual Medley, 100m Individual Medley, 200m Individual Medley, 400m Individual Medley, 800m Individual Medley, 1500m Individual Medley.

GOLF: BALLESTEROS THE MASTER

Spaniard tames himself as well as the course

From A Special Correspondent Augusta, Georgia

Severiano Ballesteros won his second Masters in three years with disciplined performance here that belied his reputation as a wild hitter.

The 26-year-old Spaniard mastered the wind and the wiles of a rain-soaked Augusta National course on Monday to score a four-stroke victory with an eight-under-par total of 280.

Ballesteros seized the initiative from his closest rivals, who included three other former champions, with a birdie on the opening hole to pull away from the lead.

After narrowly missing a birdie putt at the next hole he struck a two-iron 100-yards just two feet from the flag at the short fourth for another birdie.

Ballesteros said the first four holes were the key to his victory: "I played four under the first four holes. That put me nine under and sent my confidence straight up."

The United States and British Open Champion, Tom Watson, playing with Ballesteros, made a brief challenge when he rolled in a long eagle putt at the eighth to close the gap to two strokes; but he fell away, needing three putts at the next three greens.

Ben Crenshaw and Tom Kite, with a 68 and a 69 respectively, were joint runners-up on 284, one ahead of Watson and Ray Floyd, with Craig Stadler six strokes behind on 286.

Stadler and Floyd began the round as joint leaders, one ahead of Ballesteros and two in front of Watson as four Masters champions headed the field at Augusta. But the other three had no answer to the Spaniard's opening play and Stadler fell back with a 76, Floyd with a 75 and Watson with a 73.

Although no serious challenge came Ballesteros played confidently down the homeward stretch and then delighted the gallery by chipping into the hole at the 18th to save par in a final flourish.

He missed only one fairway all day, at the 13th, where he tried managed to save par, giving credence to his statement earlier in the week that his reputation as a wild hitter was exaggerated. "I just tried to play the course and be cool, that's all," he said.



Ballesteros embraces his caddie and his second Masters

Final scores from Augusta

Table of final scores from Augusta with columns for player names, scores, and par. Includes names like Ballesteros, Crenshaw, Kite, Watson, Floyd, Stadler, Hovland, Hoge, and Pate.

Eventing: Badminton's youngest competitor

Ambitious contender who has Mrs Green in her sights

Karen Straker, the reigning European junior champion, is the youngest competitor to enter this year's Badminton Horse Trials. At eighteen and a half she is six months over the minimum age; some consider it unduly young for a horse.



Miss Straker and Ranning Bear on winning trail at Rotherfield

Miss Straker is unimpressed, perhaps remembering that Richard Walker, at the same age, became the youngest Badminton winner ever in 1969 riding Pasha. He, too, was European junior champion at the time.

The youngest of five children (the other are all boys), Miss Straker comes from a family where anyone who showed an interest in horses was given the opportunity to develop it.

Her mother, Elaine, is the driving force. A former eventer and point-to-pointeer Mrs Straker has a gift both for teaching and for finding the right horse for her offspring.

Competitions in the last two years. After a successful career in the Pony Club - first the Zealand and then the Hurworth - on a horse called Peppercorn she became, at 15, one of Britain's "junior squad".

Unluckily Barclay went over backwards in the yard and crushed his withers so badly that he had to be put down. She continued with Peppercorn, representing Britain on him as a junior in Belgium in 1981 when the team was second and Miss Straker won the individual class.

Jenny MacArthur

La crème de la crème

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Further information may be obtained from Mr D. Lloyd-Williams, THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF GENERAL PRACTITIONERS, 14 PRINCESS GATE, HYDE PARK, LONDON SW7 1PU.

The closing date for applications is within two weeks of the appearance of this advertisement.

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WOMEN'S HOCKEY: MORE PROGRESS IN WORLD EVENTS England drop second group point

England, though still unbeaten in the World Cup tournament for women, dropped to second point here yesterday in a 1-1 draw with Argentina.

This was the first time that an England side had entered a group stage against Argentina since the Falklands crisis. Each side was tactically defensive and neither was able to keep the game flowing.

too few attackers to achieve the desired result. In the second half, contributed greatly to their success.

The United Kingdom teams and Ireland have no matches today but England play New Zealand, and Scotland play Wales in the World Cup tomorrow.

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هذا من اجل

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Subj to 1983 detached Georgian style residence...

RICHMOND GREEN/ RIVER
English Neoclassical 2 1/2 storey town house...

WIMBLEDON COMMON
Stunning luxury flat with balcony...

PUTNEY SW15
Superb 2 1/2 storey brick house...

RIVERSIDE RESIDENCE
Thames bank, Mortlake - excellent character house...

Charming Grade II Rectory Cottage
18th century rectory cottage...

WIMBLEDON COMMON
Stunning Victorian house in street...

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WIMBLEDON COMMON
2 1/2 storey Victorian house...

CLAYTON 1984 - superb 2 bed terrace house...

LONDON FLATS
43 LANCASTER GARDENS, W1P...

PROPERTY TO LET
SHIRLEY (Dorset) - 4 room, 1 1/2 storey...

ACTONS & ANTIQUES
THE UNDERGROUND STORES are a new concept...

ANTIQUE AND COLLECTABLES
HYDEY LAKE - The "Hudson" - elegant 19th century...

Residential property/Baron Phillips

Buying a piece of the past

Owning a period home is the cherished dream of many. But for most people it remains very much a dream...

cannot afford a stately home, there is a small section of apartments in various country estates starting at £33,500 leasehold.

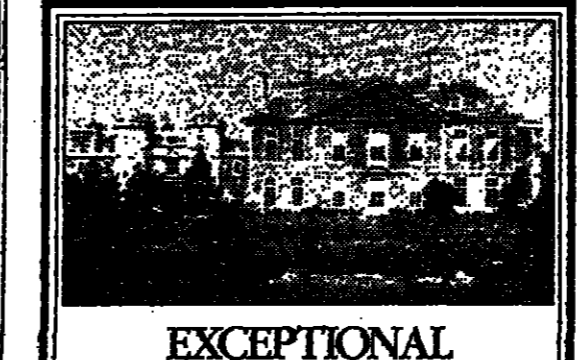
Offers of around £160,000 are being sought for this Grade 2 listed masonry East Sussex, near Wadhurst. Believed to date from the sixteenth century, the Norfolk Road thatched property has many period features...



Country Properties

Take an interest in country life

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WALLINGTON, MR. BALDOCK
Who will the best quality cottage...

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East Sussex
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East Sussex
Chelwood Gate, Near Forest Row. A delightful period cottage in a village on the edge of the Ashdown Forest.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1
6.00 Ceefax AM. News headlines, weather, sport and traffic reports...

TV-am
6.00 Daybreak presented by Gavin Scott followed at 8.30 by Good Morning Britain with Arma Ford and Nick Owen...



David Schofield as Ernest Shackleton: BBC-2 9.30pm

CHOICE
Tonight sees the start of a four-part drama documentary SHACKLETON (BBC-2 9.30pm), an account of the expeditions to Antarctica by the explorer who so captivated the South Pole...

PSYCHIATRIST'S CHAIR (Radio 4 8.45pm) is a personal triumph for Dr Anthony Clara whose persuasive probing elicited hitherto unknown depths of feeling from his interviewees...

BBC 2
6.55 Open University: Cheddar: Mapping the Mendip Anticline 7.20 Magic in the Web of Art 7.45 Oil & 10.10 Close-down

CHANNEL 4
5.00 Chips Comic. When the computer breaks down through lack of paper the publication of the comic is threatened...

Radio 3
6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. Your Midweek Choice: Johann Stamitz, S. S. Wesley, Schubert, Haydn...

Radio 4
6.00 News Briefing. 6.25 Shipping forecast. 6.30 Today, including 6.45 Prayer for the Day, 6.55 Weather...

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS
BBC1
Wales: 12.57pm-1.00pm News of Wales Headlines, 1.00-1.30 News Today...

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SUPER SECRETARIES
(continued from page 20)
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RETURNING TO WORK?
FLEETING SECRETARY who can...
MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY...
ASSISTANT MANAGER for small...
MANAGING DIRECTOR'S SUITE
MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS
DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS
MANAGING DIRECTOR'S SUITE
MAGAZINE PUBLISHERS
DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS
MANAGING DIRECTOR'S SUITE

Falkland greets pilgrims with guarded civility

From Alan Hamilton, Port Stanley
The first Falkland pilgrims stepped ashore at Port Stanley at 8.40 this morning to make contact with the 800 citizens whose remote and insular way of life their menfolk died defending.

Eight-Oscar 'Gandhi' triumphs in Hollywood

Continued from page 1
also for Ben Kingsley, born Krishna Bhanji, the son of an Indian doctor in Yorkshire, who beat the hotly-favoured Paul Newman (The Verdict) and Dustin Hoffman (Tootsie) in the best actor category.

Two views of an Indian statesman



The real Mahatma Gandhi (above) photographed in Delhi with two disciples on January 14, 1948. Below: Ben Kingsley and two actresses in a scene from the film.



Frank Johnson in the Commons A hard act to depict as subversive

Dr Gerard Vaughan, the Minister for Consumer Affairs, yesterday made a statement to the House about the controversy concerning the citizens advice bureau.

Galtieri faces tribunal

Continued from page 1
statements, and at a meeting of senior generals a majority told the commander that they wanted strong action against him.

TV top ten

- 1 Coronation Street (Wed) Granada, 10.25pm
2 The Kenny Everett Television Show, 12.05am
3 News and Sport, 11.50pm

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

- Royal engagements
Princess Margaret visits Royal Air Force Lyneham, Wiltshire, 11.30.

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,102

Grid for crossword puzzle No 16,102 with numbers 1-28.

- 1 Tossing apples to Billy? Can't be justified (13).

Academy awards

The complete Associated Press list of winners at the 55th annual Academy Awards in Los Angeles.

National Day

The land-locked central African state of Chad celebrates its National Day today.

Anniversaries

Births: Thomas Jefferson, 3rd president of the United States, 1801-09, Shawville, Virginia, 1743.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Social Security and Housing Benefits Bill, second reading.

Roads

London and South-east A501: City Road partially closed N of Old Street roundabout.

The papers

Commenting on the "golden harvest of Oscars" awarded to the British film Gandhi, The Sun says: "It is an immense achievement to 'beat Hollywood at its own game'."

Pictorial aerogramme

Edinburgh University's 400th anniversary and the 200th anniversary of the Royal Society of Edinburgh will be celebrated with the issue today of a Scottish pictorial aerogramme.

The pound

Table with exchange rates for Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hongkong, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Singapore, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, USA, Venezuela.

London

Yesterday: Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, d, out; f, air; s, sea.

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Weymouth, 130 (50F); min 70 (51F). Lowest: London, 50 (122F); min 40 (104F).

Weather

A trough of low pressure will cross all districts during the day.

Lighting-up time

London 8.23 pm to 8.59 pm; Edinburgh 8.44 pm to 9.02 pm; Manchester 8.26 pm to 8.43 pm; Preston 8.42 pm to 8.59 pm.

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, d, out; f, air; s, sea.

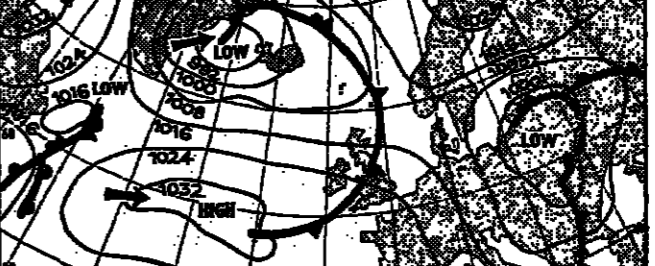
London

Yesterday: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 100 (50F); min 7 pm to 7 am, 30 (87F); humidity: 7 pm, 51 per cent.

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Weymouth, 130 (50F); min 70 (51F). Lowest: London, 50 (122F); min 40 (104F).

NOON TODAY



High tides

Table with tide measurements for various locations including London Bridge, Liverpool, Southampton, etc.

Around Britain

Table with weather conditions for various regions across Britain.

Abroad

Table with weather conditions for various international locations.